RACE PROBLEM-1925
AFRICA

Race Problem: Africa — 1925

See Also: Blue Book Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria — 1920

African World Annual - 1921-22.

Records and Research Library.

Race Problem—1925.

Africa.

SLAVE CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA RELATED

The Hard Experience of a Native in the Diamond Mines and the Treatment of Natives to Prevent Them from Pilfering Diamonds

The Negro World has received a long communication from a native in South Africa from which we take the following extracts:—

I was engaged in a compound hospital for a couple of months, and I ordered The Negro World and was receiving it regularly. I shall now state my reasons for leaving the place of employment.

There is a place in South Africa known as the Diamond Fields. It is a place to the African natives with hardships. Once you are employed you go in no more to come out and see the world again until your time has expired. Natives are strictly prohibited to possess diamonds. The punishment being, if found with any diamonds, is seven years at hard labor. When a worker leaves the fields he is sent to the searching department for two days. He is stripped naked, given a dose of cathartic medicine. His hands are fastened on a kind of lock fixed on a glove similar to a tennis racket. The glove is very hard with a wee bit of ventilation. The worker is then obliged to sleep day and night naked, eating dog-like from a dish.

Ever since I first started receiving the paper it has been opened and read beforehand. Not knowing who the Europeans who operate the Diamond Fields are, they believe it to belong to a "Kaffir," and they see how long they can torment the "Kaffir" by keeping what they know rightfully belongs to him. Therefore, I am glad I left the place.

I am more than delighted to read of the Honorable Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association. The Negro World is a very interesting paper. The abominable prejudice which exists out here in Africa is frightful. It seems to be gradually increasing, although they forget the help the black man was to them during their hostilities.

There is nothing worse on earth than a love of falsity. After what we have done for the Europeans centuries ago, either in the Boer War or the present day existencies. Here in the Province of Transvaal the natives are paying yearly taxes, but receive few if any public benefits.

May God bless Marcus Garvey and help him to fight for the redemption of the Negro peoples. One of my reasons for having such faith in The Negro World is that we are allowed to express our opinions, whereas the native papers do not accept such matters of this nature.

Another thought that disturbs me is that we fought against our brothers who were soldiers of the Germans, this was in the eastern and western parts of Africa. When help was wanted we volunteered and recruited, not knowing that we had to attack black men. Again, I want to emphasize that your African brothers and sisters await the American Negro to lead them, as most of the natives are uneducated. We are ever ready to stand by the noble leader Hon. Marcus Garvey.

A NATIVE AFRICAN.

New Castle, South Africa.

Republic of Liberia.

OUR LIBERIAN NEWS-LETTER.

("African World" Correspondent.)

MONROVIA, December 5.

Thanksgiving Day.

Thanksgiving Day was observed in accordance with a proclamation issued by President King, by special services in the churches throughout the Republic on November 6. In the afternoon cricket and football games were indulged in by the sporting element of the population, followed by dances in the evening.

Farmers' Prosperity.

There is evidence that the agricultural workers are enjoying prosperous times by reason of the better prices they are receiving for produce, coffee having advanced nearly 100 per cent. in price during the last few months; prices for palm oil and piassava are also advancing steadily. The chief drawback at present appears to be the delay in receiving modern machinery, which the farmers are said to have ordered some time ago. The opening of the Monrovia-White Plains-Careysburg Road is somewhat responsible for the advancing market, as transport from the interior districts is rendered more easy, and goods are being shipped in larger quantities. The Government is showing much interest in the endeavours the farmers are putting forth to place agriculture on a substantial basis. The Government is also doing its best for the betterment of the farmers.

Senator Parker's Demise.

Mr. E. L. Parker, Senator for Montserrado County for over six years, died on November 17 in Monrovia. His remains were taken to his home in Brewersville for burial. A salute of seventeen guns was fired during the obsequies.

Opening of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court opened on November 24, the full Court and Bar being present. Mr. Chief Justice F. E. R. Johnson delivered his semi-annual address before a distinguished gathering, which included His Excellency President King and his Cabinet and the Diplomatic Corps.

The Timber Market.

In their market report for West African timbers, dated December 31, Messrs. J. F. Müller and Sohn, Hamburg, state:—

There was not much change in the position during the month of December. Demand was good all round, and business might have been larger but for the scarcity in some descriptions.

Sapele.—Two consignments from Cameroon, consisting of round and square logs, mostly big wood, of prime condition and roey texure, met with an excellent reception.

Okoumie.—The experience of former years seems to show that the last months of the year are always those of most abundant supplies. Thus, during the month of December offers came in on a rather alarming scale. On the other hand, however, the market showed an astonishing consumptive power, deliveries having touched for 1924 the prewar figure of 100,000 tons for 1913. Unsold consignments into Hamburg came up to the amount of about 4,000 tons. About two thirds of these consisted of especially fine wood, which was all sold after inspection on c.i.f. terms. There are further inquiries for similar wood. The balance consisted partly of poor or damaged wood, which could, however, be moved shortly after landing. It may be mentioned that a healthy influence upon the volume of business has been noticeable by the fact, that river navigation is still open rather late this year, and that freight rates to inland ports have been especially low during December. Buyers in Bremen and Westphalia were more particularl interested in forward business for shipment first quarter 1925. Consumers at the Rhine and in the South of Germany took up a fair amount of wood either afloat or for delivery during the next month or two at Rotterdam or Antwerp. Shippers should, however, bear in mind that, apart from Hamburg, the basis for selling Okoumie to the other ports mentioned is confined to certain limits, beyond which there is no room for making unsold consignments to any extent.

A BLACK GIRL working on a South African farm left her employment and went home to her kraal. The farmer drove to the kraal, took the girl back to his farm, flogged her, and tied her by the neck to a beam in a rat-infested outhouse. An hour later the girl was found dead with the tips of her fingers gnawed off by rats. The farmer was charged with homicide, tried before a white jury, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. Such is the outline of a case that has shaken South Africa morally and politically. Details of other similar outrages have since been brought to light. These make it clear that equal justice for white and black exists nowhere in the Union—least of all in the country districts. Decent citizens and religious and civic bodies are becoming aroused; but Tielman Roos, the Minister of Justice, shows no concern. In an interview in the *Manchester Guardian* he stated his position with appalling clarity.

> "Impartial justice," he said, "does not mean . . . that a judge or a magistrate would necessarily give precisely the same sentence to a white man as to a native in a given crime. A very brief sentence of imprisonment to a white man means a great deal more to him than a very much longer term of detention to a native."

The chairman of a Negro mass meeting in Cape Town indicated the inevitable response to this variety of "impartiality." He said: "We have not got any trust in the white man along either political, educational, or religious lines. The salvation of the non-European lies in himself."

SOUTH AFRICA is obviously no nearer a solution of its race problem than our own South. Its overwhelming preponderance of colored people, their growing self-consciousness and sense of power, will almost inevitably engender fear and hatred and even worse forms of terrorism. And the picture of Georgia drawn by W. E. Burghardt Du Bois on another page of this issue leaves us little reason for self-congratulation. We still beat and lynch and flog, and then demand continued respect and docility. An optimistic light, however, gleams from our lynching figures for 1923 and 1924. Sixteen persons, all Negroes, were killed by mobs last year, in contrast with 33 in 1923 and 57 in 1922. Even more impressive than that is the fact that 45 attempted lynchings, mostly in the South, were prevented by officers of the law; in nine cases armed force was used to repel the lynchers. The decent element in the South is making an evident effort to stop a vicious system and redeem a world-wide reputation for brutality. This year's record is at least a modest victory for justice and humanity.

LIBERIA'S PROGRESSIVE PRESIDENT.

Next Thursday H.M. cruiser "Dublin" will call at Monrovia to take His Excellency President C. D. B. King, Mrs. King, and their suite as honoured friends of the British Government to Sierra Leone, where they will be entertained for a week and reside as guests of Sir Ransford and Lady Slater at Government House, Freetown. It is the first time that a President of Liberia has been taken in a British warship to a British colony, and the fact is—at this function especially—of considerable significance. We learn that President King will proceed after an enjoyable week spent at Freetown to the northern terminus of the Sierra Leone Government Railways, thence to cross expected to be back at Monrovia until the end of March the extreme northern frontier of his own country, and at the earliest, and there can be no doubt that this official undertake the first crossing of his own Hinterland from tour will have far-reaching consequences in many directhe north to the coast, on an official inspection tour to make tions. We have reason to believe that last Wednesday acquainted with the great chiefs and himself thoroughly tribes of these important

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MRS. JABAVU'S MISSION.

Mrs. Jabavu, the wife of Professor Jabavu, has just returned to South Africa from England, where she has been studying, for the past two years, their methods of living, so as to help her own people and assist in the uplifting of the women of her race. She addressed a big meeting of native women at Port Elizabeth recently, and spoke of her experiences during her stay in England. Her subject was based on economy and hygiene as the gateway to civilisation. She strongly advocated the need of cleanliness in native homes: purity of mind and body, the way to bring up native children, particularly girls, for in them rested the future of the native races. Mrs. Jabavu also quoted the number of births and deaths, pointing out the high percentage of deaths caused by ignorance and neglect, and she expressed a strong desire to see a native branch of the Child Welfare Society in Port Elizabeth. Mrs. Jabavu concluded by saying that economy was very essential as the panacea to hard living on the very little wages earned, and she appealed to the women to strive to be faithful Christians.

COTTON-GROWING IN THE CONGO.

Favourable Report.

ANTWERP, September 24.

Passengers who arrived here to-day by the mail boat "Thysville" brought very favourable news regarding cotton-growing in the Uele district of the Congo. The raw cotton harvested in 1924 and 1925 in Lower Uele and the eastern part of Upper Uele totalled 6,750 tons. The cotton-growing companies are increasing their staffs, and it is expected that by 1930 the Congo will be furnishing 20,000 tons of the 40,000 required annually by the Flemish textile industry.—Reuter.

Sleeping Sickness Serum for the Congo.

BERLIN, September 23.

Half a million francs' worth of the German serum against sleeping sickness has been ordered by Belgium on reparation account. The serum is for use in the fight against this disease in the Congo.—Reuter.

LIBRARIAN POST IS GIVEN TO SIBLEY

Former Welfare Worker Appointed Educational Advisor to Phelps-Stokes Fund

James L. Sibley, who resigned several days ago as assistant director of the state child welfare department, has accepted the appointment as advisor on educational policies to the Phelps-Stokes fund of New York, and a number of boards engaged in educational work in Liberia.

The organizations represented are the New York, American and Massachusetts Colonization societies and the foreign mission boards of the Protestant Episcopal church, the Methodist Episcopal church and the United Lutheran churches of America.

Mr. Sibley expects to sail for England in November. He will leave England some time later for West Africa, where he expects to arrive in December. After a thorough study of school conditions in Liberia, he will make recommendations for the reorganization of the schools there, so as to make their work more nearly adapted to the needs of the people.

Liberia was founded about a hundred years ago by ex-slave colonists from the southern states, and since its settlement, has maintained a separate existence as a republic modeled after the United States form of government. With the kingdom of Abyssinia, it is the only bit of independent territory left in Africa. The United States has maintained friendly though unofficial relations with the government there since its establishment. In size, Liberia is said to be about as large as the state of Alabama and is rich in natural resources.

The country has recently come into especial prominence through the announcement that a large American tire company was negotiating with the Liberian government for a concession of a million acres of land to be planted in rubber. Since British interests are said to have secured a practical monopoly of the world's supply of crude rubber, American manufacturers have been seeking a new source of supply which will be independent of foreign control. It is proposed, it is stated, to operate the concession by a holding corporation capitalized at $100,000,000.

Mr. Sibley was formerly rural school agent for the Alabama state department of education. Later he was connected with the extension department of the University of Georgia, also with the extension department of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn. For the past two years he has been secretary of the Alabama conference of social work, with headquarters in Montgomery and has also held the post of assistant director of the state child welfare department.

KENYA'S LABOUR STRENGTH.

Kenya's native labour strength is shown in the tabulated analysis just issued of the native working population, reflecting the numerical strength of the various tribes in employment for the three months ending May 31.

The figures for March gave the total number of registered natives in employment as 143,626; in April as 149,957, and in May the figure had further risen to 156,819, or 28.62 per cent. of the natives registered, the total male population according to the 1924 count being 1,221,436.

Kavirondo were in greatest strength, viz., for the three months: 47,701, 52,923, 52,896, while the Akikuyu were scarcely behind, Kyambu turning out in May 14,934, Fort Hall 14,976, and Nyeri 18,003, each an increase over the first month.

The Akamba increased from 10,473 to 12,631, the Nandi from 3,251 to 3,513; Embu and Chuka from 4,460 to 6,574, the Wa-Meru from 4,484 to 4,933, while the Lumbwa dropped from 5,956 to 5,737 and the Wa-Teita from 2,900 to 2,809.

African King Comes To Study Condition Of American Negro

NEW YORK, Sept. 25.—Coming here from a country where acquaintances greet each other by raising a leg each and putting the soles of the feet together, where women receive preference in all matters; where succession to the throne passes through the maternal side of the family and where only a nephew can inherit the throne, King Nana Amoah, III, of the gold coast of West Africa, arrived today on the Cunard liner Aquitania for a visit. He admitted New York was "different" from the towns of his native land.

King Amoah, who is ruler of 30,000 to 40,000 people, intends to visit American cities which have large negro populations where he will study the accomplishments of his race. From his observations here he hopes to take back valuable suggestions for his own subjects.

The king is 49 years old. He is a Protestant Christian and was educated in the first Christian college established in the gold coast country. As an evidence of his faith, he wears a miniature gold Bible dangling from a jade bracelet on his wrist.

The Katanga Railway.

The steady development of Katanga is indicated by the following returns of the Katanga Railway:—

In the five first months of this year, the Katanga Railway transported 29,147 passengers and 1,218,168 tons of freight, against 26,138 passengers and 1,026,116 tons of freight in the five first months of last year.

The figures would have been better still if, as a consequence of the Beira floods, Katanga had not been cut, nearly a month during, from its chief export and had not suffered from the acute lack of wagons which resulted for the Rhodesian Railways from these floods. (The recent fall in the Union Minière copper output was the consequence of this lack of waggons, Wankie having thus been unable to provide the Union Minière with its usual supply of coal and coke.)

Should this interest you, here are besides the traffic returns of the Katanga Railway since its opening:—

	Length of the System.	Passengers Carried.	Freight Carried.
1911 ...	275 kilometers	... 13,900	... 95,000 tons
1912 ...	275 ,,	... 18,250	... 106,000 ,,
1913 ...	364 ,,	... 26,180	... 254,000 ,,
1914 ...	439 ,,	... 39,140	... 366,000 ,,
1915 ...	484·8 ,,	... 27,455	... 386,000 ,,
1916 ...	549 ,,	... 33,815	... 588,000 ,,
1917 ...	551 ,,	... 50,665	... 710,00 ,,
1918 ...	614 ,,	... 57,730	... 685,000 ,,
1919 ...	751 ,,	... 57,375	... 824,000 ,,
1920 ...	751 ,,	... 67,895	... 823,000 ,,
1921 ...	751 ,,	... 59,175	... 1,092,000 ,,
1922 ...	767·6 ,,	... 65,746	... 1,695,672 ,,
1923 ...	767·6 ,,	... 60,506	... 2,266,000 ,,
1924 ...	768 ,,	... 68,184	... 2,645,000 ,,

Apropos the Katanga Railway, I will add that, on July 1 last, higher tariffs came in force for the mining and other local produce, and, at least as to the mining traffic, these increases were decided in agreement with the customers. J. ROUSSEAUX.

SLAVERY IN THE SUDAN

WHILE AMERICAN investigators are submitting to the League of Nations their report on so-called slavery in Portuguese Africa, accounts of out-and-out slavery in British Africa reach Geneva. They are signed by Major Diggle, formerly an administrator in the Sudan, and issued by the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines' Protection Society. As reproduced by the London papers, his statement begins, "I went to the Sudan knowing nothing whatever about slavery; but, having lived there four years out of seven, mostly alone and in extremely close contact with the people, I could not fail to notice the appalling evidence of slavery." The Major continues:

"Since my return to England about a year ago I have tried privately to get effective action taken, but unfortunately the official attitude is that very little can be done at present.

"If the League of Nations' Slavery Commission could appoint a small committee of investigation, I would be willing to appear before them and give them personally some of my experiences in the Sudan as evidence of the efforts I have made to secure adequate reforms. The facts contained in this statement have already been brought formally to the notice of the administration by me while in the Sudan.

"The argument advanced by upholders of slavery that their masters look after them in their old age is, in my opinion, a demonstrable untruth so far as the locality in which I was stationed is concerned. The argument that slaves can obtain their freedom by asking for it is incorrect."

Dr. Millard's Presidential ADDRESS.

—X—

We culled the following interesting and instructive paragraphs from the Presidential Address of Dr Millard, made on the 17th June at the annual Congress of the South African Health Society at Fort Hare:—

In thinking over what subject I might speak to you about to-night, and what [illegible] practical hints I have realised that so many topics have been recently dealt with so excellently in the *Health Magazine* and treated in a far more efficient manner than I could hope to deal with them in the time at my disposal, that I began to be dismayed. Then it struck me that a few "Don'ts" striking antitheses of good advice disregarded every day entirely through ignorance or want of thought, might be of interest, and possibly of service. First of all then.

"Don't overfeed Babies."

Many babies die of over-feeding. Very, very few die from want of food. There is no need to give a healthy baby porridge or cow's milk. He thrives best on his mother's milk alone It is a good plan to give him no other food until he begins to cut his teeth Cramming a handful of sour porridge down a child's throat when it is ten days old, is a fruitful source of diarrhoea and untimely death.

"Don't be too obsessed by the observance of Native Custom"

We all know that Custom is a difficult thing to surmount, and even where an individual, knowing he is right, wishes to act differently, he dislikes hurting the feelings of his relatives and neighbours who would think he was acting wrongly. But in times of sickness always to stick to what "has been our custom" is attended with danger. For example DON'T let sick people struggle outside the hut to attend to the calls of nature. One frequently sees men and women desperately ill with some raging fever crawling outside to the nearest bush or donga, simply because it is not the custom to have a bucket with earth in it, brought into the hut.

"Don't have too great a belief in the potency of drugs"

And "don't," for one moment, imagine that the key to sound health lies in the swallowing of medicine. Doctors are always searching for, and frequently discovering something fresh about disease, and new ways of fighting it. Drinking medicine is only one way.

"Don't forget that preventing illness is far better than trying to cure it after it has occurred."

Don't be too ready to laugh at treatment advised by a doctor because you cannot understand how it works."

It took a long time before people were convinced that mosquitoes had anything to do with malaria; and it is only now that people really believe that Typhus Fever is caused by the louse; and that the rat is the chief agent which spreads Plague, or that the innocent-looking Tick conveys East Coast Fever in cattle.

"Don't overeat or overdrink."

"Don't sleep in wet clothes."

"Don't forget that the use of soap and water is necessary for cleanliness," and that cleanliness is essential to health.

When people wear European clothes, shirts, trousers, underclothing, etc., it is more necessary to keep clean than when, in the primitive dress of a blanket and kaross, perpiring freely.

"Don't let your womenfolk remain four or five days in labour without calling in medical assistance."

I know how difficult this may be when one lives perhaps thirty or forty miles from the nearest doctor, but one must remember that such an occasion happens very seldom in a person's life, and after all one's wife is worth as much as two or three head of cattle. Almost invariably now-a-days, timely assistance in abnormal labours will save the mother's life. If a first labour has proved unduly prolonged or difficult it is a good plan for the woman to come and stay in a village near to the doctor, when the next confinement is due, so that medical help is easily procurable if required.

"Don't let people who are very ill die of starvation."

You may think this is a rather unnecessary remark. But it often happens in Louse Fever and certain other conditions where a patient becomes unconscious, and cannot ask for food and drink, and there seems to be a difficulty in swallowing, that the friends of the sick person leave him alone, and he frequently dies merely for the lack of nourishment. The act of swallowing is involuntary, and a perfectly unconscious person can be fed regularly if the nourishment is placed far back in his throat, and is in liquid form.

"Don't forget that in sickness milk is the most valuable form of nourishment there is."

A bottle alone, a day, will keep a person alive for months.

"Don't let your womenfolk wear corsets or high-heeled or pointed shoes.

Corsets were introduced by European women as a policy of despair because they were losing their figures The Native woman has a good figure and corsets are entirely unnecessary and very frequently harmful. The use of high-heeled shoes with pointed toes is ridiculous. The broad, flat foot of the South African Native is in the right propotion to the body, and does not improve the comeliness of any Native girl to try to alter that shape by squeezing it into a tightly fitting shoe,—whatever the local trader may say to the contrary! Personally, I consider the broad-toed sandal the most serviceable and becoming foot-wear.

"Don't neglect sores and ulcerations on your eyes"

Many cases of blindness occur yearly through the neglect of this rule. If you have a sore eye, at all costs endeavour to consult a doctor at once; two or three days delay may mean the loss of an eye.

"Don't delay to take your children to a doctor when they get Diptheria."

All Native people know this terrible disease, where white patches occur in the throat. It spreads rapidly from one child to another, and left alone, many children die of it. Don't waste time trying gargles, or trying remedies your neighbours recommend There is no drug-medicine in the world that can cure it, but if the child is inoculated with what is called anti-diptheritic serum it will almost invariably get cured, and those who have not become infected can be similarly inoculated, and will escape the disease. All doctors have this serum ready for immediate use.

"Don't forget that vegetables are valuable help in keeping the body healthy,"

Besides being a pleasant and nourishing food, turnips, carrots, cabbage, etc. are easily grown and should be much more used by Native people than they are. In some parts there is great prejudice against the use of vegetables and it may interest some of you to know that when missionaries went to Basuto land and made gardens and grew all sorts of vegetables, their Native neighbours would remark to another: Khm! these people must come from a miserable country indeed, for they eat the roots and bulbs like bushmen do, or as we have to do only in very severe famine times."

Of course this prejudice is now dying away, but still very few vegetables are used in the Native's dietary, which is a pity.

Perhaps if more of us could find our way into the gaols, it is possible that the Government's plan of making vegetables a ration there, might do something to popularise their use.

And finally a very important *don't*.

"Don't build your huts without inserting large windows; and by windows I mean two decent glazed windows which will open, fully two and a half feet square.'

Sunlight is all important in maintaining health, and it must be allowed to come right into our dwellings. Sunlight is an aseptic and disinfectant. Disease germs won't live in sunlight, therefore let the sunlight into your houses. Many people have already adopted the square so-called European type of houses, but the rondavel is the traditional dwelling of the Natives. It is very picturesque, and it is easy to build, and it is not at all hygienic. It is, of course, an early type in the evolution of man's dwelling places. Back in the beginning of time, our early forefathers lived in holes in the earth, and caves; later as they gain intelligence they built little round huts thatched largely with bushes or grass with a tiny opening through which they crept inside.

All races of mankind began like that, and it may be some hundreds of years before the African rondavel gives place to a more suitable dwelling with several rooms, and a more serviceable weather-proof roof. In the meantime, if you or your neighbour build a hut, be sure at least that decent windows are put in the kind that will shut and open, so that a free draught may play through, and that the sunshine can penetrate to its deepest recess, and not a mere aperture four inches square, stuffed with sacking, or blocked up with last year's discarded trousers!

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Africa

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS BULLETIN.

PROVINCIAL TAXATION—MAGNATES AND MR. BEYERS —IMMIGRATION—PROSPEROUS DURBAN—FARMERS AND STATE ENTERPRISE—MISCELLANEA.

(Special Despatch to "The African World")

DURBAN, October 27.

Taxation matters have been much to th fore this week. The Transvaal Betting Ta has been practically upset on the groun that it is not direct taxation. It transpire that the man who wins his bet does no actually pay, as he should, the "bookie' paying for him after due deduction from th proceeds of the bet. You bet! But Mr Justice Curlewis, who gave the upsetting judgment, thought the matter ought to go before a full Bench, which suggests a doub in his mind which, surely, the Revenue authorities ought to have had the benefit of; and the Revenue authorities are going on with the matter to the bitter end, whic suggests they love taxation rather more than the morality behind it. Then, in the read justment of Provincial taxation which the Government effected last Session, the Free State lost its own special Education Tax and, incidentally, £90.000 of revenue. The public, however, is not to escape. It is being floored with a Poll Tax, as in the Transvaal, though, even so, this new tax will not, comparatively, quite empty its pocket, since the total result is not expected to exceed £72.000. The Transvaal has its Poll Tax, as I have indicated, and very likely all the provinces will have one sooner or later. The Government favours uniformity in taxation, and is known not to be averse to poll taxes, as was Mr. Tyler.

Our Magnates.

Mr. Minister Beyers does not like our magnates. But what is a magnate? There are signs that Mr. Beyers's definition does not extend beyond the Rand gold mines, though there are men with much money in the wool and feather areas of the country. Nor, again, is it quite clear how, in his opinion, magnates should behave? The assumption is that they should behave philanthropically; that promoting industry and providing work for human beings and revenue for the Treasury does not count. Anyway, he thinks that South Africa has been more unfortunate than any other country in its wealthy men. No doubt many wealthy men have treated us rather scurvily and are still doing it, but, of course, a man can't be convicted of a charge of scurvily treating the country simply because he has not flooded the charities with funds. An illustration of the point I have in mind is afforded by the action of Mr. Schlesinger at Maritzburg only this week. Mr. Schlesinger is probably a magnate. He has bought the lease of a business plot in the Natal City for £1,200 a year, and he intends to put a thea tre on it costing from first to last no less than £80,000. Well, I hope the venture is thoroughly successful; but the risk is such as to amount well-nigh to philanthropy. But does it count with Mr. Beyers? Will it ever count with him? One wonders.

The Locarno Pact.

The probabilities are that the Union Government will not associate this country with the Locarno Pact. That does not accord with the feeling of the English-speaking section. The fact is, the Pact is just a little too British for the Government and its backers. That it makes for peace is neither here nor there, which is strange, since our Nationalists profess to have a horror of war —when it is not against the Native and certain others. Ostensibly, the Nationalists fear European entanglements. It is more than passing strange that a Peace intrument should fill one with thoughts of war. There is reason to believe, however, that the Pact appeals to the Prime Minister, apart from his sardonically humorous observation, when declining to be interviewed on the subject the other day, that it pleased him to learn that people were now becoming interested in Pacts! Still, and evidently, one good Pact does not deserve another!

Immigration.

The scientists are now taking an interest in our immigrants. Speaking at a baby week gathering at Port Elizabeth last week, Dr. Crosthwaite, who is a Government mental expert, questioned our wisdom in allowing the unrestricted entry of the misfits and physical degenerates from South and East Europe. He gave it as his opinion that much of their offspring was feeble-minded. Other speakers took much the same view, and the upshot was a decided feeling that this country should resort to the quota system, as America had done, so that good-blooded Nordics would not be frozen out by bad-blooded Slavs. It sounds all right—on paper; but as there is no restriction on numbers, only on quality, the suggestion does not seem able to improve our practice. In the meantime, the campaign to induce invalids to come to South Africa in search of health continues.

Durban's Amazing Advance.

The Government has just published a set of industrial statistics which express Durban's amazing advance. It is true that the figures are not strikingly modern, but, then, they are Government figures. They are for the year 1922-23. Making a comparison with six years before, one finds that the number of industrial establishments has increased from 367 to 560, the capital value respectively being £3.2 millions and £6.2 millions; that the value of the output has increased from £6.1 millions to £9.7 millions; that the employees now number 20,000 as against 11,000, being, however, only just over 30 per cent. European, as against just under 40 per cent.; and that the wage bill exceeds two million pounds a year, whereas it did not reach a million. It is noticeable that an increasing use of South African raw material is being made. The resident, of course, sees other signs of this progress in, for example, the new buildings that have latterly gone up and are under construction. In this respect Smith Street and West Street may almost be said to have been transformed within the last decade. Potentially, Durban is the biggest town in the sub-continent.

Publicity Push.

The Publicity Associations have been holding their first annual congress—at East London. Sir Pieter Bam had much to do with co-ordinating these bodies. Whether or not it was worth all the bother is another matter; anyhow, they take themelves seriously, and they have a lot of words at their command, even if they haven't much money. Publicity in this country is Sir William Hoy, who is no mean man at the game. He has just sent 7,000 photographs and an agent to New York wherefrom all America is to be apprised of the scenic and, perhaps, other riches of our Woman Wonderful and told of the charges which Sir William, his engines and trains, will make that they might enjoy them. As a matter of fact, Sir William Hoy is already making final arrangements for transporting a party of some 300 wealthy Americans who are to tour the Union and Rhodesia in February next—real publicity fruits.

Obituary.

Death this week has removed two quite considerable figures—Capt. Millar, of Durban, and Mr. "Daddy" Welsh, of Potchefstroom, septuagenarians both. The former is better known as "Lynn Lister," the poet, who has sung of South Africa as Adam Lindsay Gordon has sung of Australia, who has given us Dick King's ride and Alan Wilson's stand in lines which, some of us think, will be imperishable. Mr. Welsh will be recalled by many as the employee-associate of Rider Haggard on those trips which gave birth to "She" and other romances.

W. S. R.

MISS KATHLEEN McQUITTY PIANO RECITAL.

That clever performer Miss Kathleen McQuitty had a very appreciative audience at the Grotrian Hall on Wednesday evening, November 4, where she gave a piano recital prior to her Continental tour. One of the most attractive items on the programme was that with which she started, Beethoven's Rondo in G. It is evident that this composer makes a great appeal to her, and certainly the particular qualities characteristic of her playing are well suited to the interpretation of his works.

Miss McQuitty gave the Rondo enchantingly, the runs sounding like strings of exquisitely matched pearls. She followed it with the same composer's Rondo à Capriccio, which was brilliantly played with just the right gradations of tone. Miss McQuitty's next item was Liszt's Sonata in B minor, where she showed herself throughout an artist of sincerity, with ample technique at her command. Her pianissimo work was exceptionally beautiful, and her performance greeted with prolonged applause.

Miss McQuitty has a charming touch, which she displayed to advantage in a quartet of pieces by F. Bridge—Romance, Fire Flies, Heart's Ease, and Capriccio; they in their turn being followed by an Intermezzo, Capriccio, and Scherzo by Brahms, thus bringing to a close an evening of most delightful music. The talented artist was recalled to the platform time and time again, and was presented with numerous and lovely flowers.

LADY IRENE.

BRITISH FARMERS' TOUR.

The Committee of the London Branch of the South African National Union (which is responsible for the forthcoming tour of the British and Irish Farmers to South Africa) met at Messrs. Mosenthal and Sons offices on Wednesday afternoon, Lieut.-Col. Sir Pieter C. van B. Stewart-Bam in the chair. There were also present Mr. William Mosenthal, Sir Reginald Blankenberg, Mr. J. C. Fraser, Mr. E. Mosenthal, Mr. Laing (representing Mr. Robertson F. Gibb), and Mr. Canham (secretary).

The chairman submitted a financial statement covering the work of the recent tour of South African farmers to this country, and it was also announced that sixty-six definite bookings for the British farmers tour had been received up to date; these included seven ladies, and there were still about fifty applications under consideration. Certain other applications for inclusion in the tour were considered and dealt with, the line adopted by the committee in these cases being that no applications could be accepted, except from persons who were bona-fide farmers in the United Kingdom.

During the chairman's absence in South Africa Mr. William Mosenthal will act as chairman.

Correspondence.

NATIVE PREACHERS.

TO THE EDITOR IMVO.

Sir,—In your issue of October 27, there appears a letter from the pen of one Mr. W. N. Dube, the headlines of which letter are: "Native Preachers." To allow a letter of this kind to pass unchallenged would be a grave blunder. Many a young man—and Mr. Dube is one—is prone to criticise for the mere sake of criticism and for the purpose to enjoy publicity without material bearing on the subject he undertakes to criticise. It is easier to find fault than to initiate, as it is easier to point out a malady than to suggest a remedy. Mr. Dube's sentiments contained in his letter appear to be an attack either on a certain section of preachers in his environment or on certain denominations

that do not enjoy a universal recognition. He says: 'It is a firm belief of most of the native preachers that unless a preacher makes the people weep, he is not competent enough and is regarded as lacking some qualifications which he must acquire in order to become a good preacher." We emphatically challenge the above assertion. Mr. Duba here has not refrained from sinking into exaggeration. It is nothing but a prattle—yes, a vapourous prattle intertwoven with absurdity! He again says that his aim is to point out what he thinks would greatly help these preachers who are not sufficiently educated to read English." We now wonder as to whether his criticism and what he points out will reach the notice of "that particular class of preachers" whom he attacks since they are not able to read English!

Quite so! the inability may be "caused by the scarcity of books written in native languages containing sermons by great preachers." After this illogical conclusion Mr. Duba throws the blame on ministers for not publishing the translations of such books as best known to him. With this latter conclusion his pen betrays his lack of initiative. Here we do not see why he should put the blame on ministers for not contributing to native literature. He himself is a young man (judging from the tone of his letter) who can read as well as write and teach English; who aspires for social reform of his people.

Let him first cry aloud with Hamlet: "Time is out of joint, O cursed spite, that ever I was born to set it right," then he will say nothing more but to do his part to contribute to native literature.

Thank you Mr. Editor for space.

EDWARD M. J. PHAGO.
St. Margarets' School,
Oogies,
Transvaal.

The National Congress of British West Africa.

NOTICE.

THIRD SESSION OF CONGRESS.

It is hereby notified for general information that the THIRD SESSION of Congress, postponed in May last under certain unavoidable circumstances, has now been fixed to take place at the Gambia, in December next, and to open with Religious Services at Bathurst, Gambia R. on Sunday the 13th December, 1925 and simultaneously throughout British West Africa (in all MOSQUES, on the previous Friday the 11th December, 1925).

There will be a Closing Service on Sunday the 27th December, but the Session will formally close on the 30th December, 1925.

Communications from all persons, as to topics for discussion, motions, resolutions and other metters of interest to the welfare and progress of West Africa, are cordially invited.

By Order,
SAML. RICH. WOOD,
General Secretary.

General Secretary's Office,
Axim, Gold Coast,
West Africa,
26th October, 1925.

GOLD COAST LETTER.

The Progress of Achimota.

The return to Accra of the Rev. A. G. Fraser, Principal of Achimota, with his wife and 10 assistant masters, and of Dr. and Mrs. Aggrey, shows that although Achimota has recently enjoyed comparatively little prominence in the news, matters are fairly in train for the opening early next year. Such high hopes have been held out regarding the education to be made available that to avoid disappointment, it is as well to remind the people again that the full value of the institution cannot be felt for about 10 years at least, when the more advanced classes will be in running order. There is, for instance, some tendency to consider that almost by the next planting season an era of scientific agriculture will be inaugurated with experts trained at Achimota, an optimistic view which ignores the fact that the science is still in an experimental stage in West Africa, and makes light of the existing disinclination of the young Gold Coaster to adopt professions as yet almost unknown in the Colony. However, the successful production of surveyors is educating the people to the possibility of careers other than those of the Law, Medicine, and the Church for their sons, and if definite prospects of future employment materialise it should not prove difficult to recruit aspirants for other professions.

THE UNION'S NATIVE PROBLEM.

The solution of the native question is one of the most pressing and difficult problems of administration in the Union, but it is open to grave doubt whether the proposals of General Hertzog will succeed even temporarily in solving the difficulty. The basis of any scheme likely to have the least chance of permanency must have as its basis the recognition of the growing numerical and economic importance of the native. South Africa, with a comparatively small and chiefly non-working white population in the midst of a numerically superior native population rapidly progressing in education and organisation, is faced with a problem which every year becomes more difficult and provocative. The complete segregation of the native with full autonomy cannot be considered, but equally impossible is the maintenance of limited political rights and representation only by members of—to the native—an alien race. The proposals of General Hertzog may, however, be intended as the first step towards the granting of direct representation, which must be acceded to sooner or later, for the position of the Premier is too delicate for him to ignore the dislike of the majority of his party to accord any kind of political recognition to the native. No doubt the full text of the important speech of General Hertzog will fill in some of the apparent gaps in the scheme and render clear obscure points. Meantime it would appear from the cabled summary that the political franchise of the Cape native is to be taken away, and, in its place, all natives in the Union will have the right to elect seven Europeans to the Assembly, the Cape, Natal, and the Transvaal sending two each and the Free State one. The Cape coloured population is to be recognised as on an equality with Europeans throughout the Union. For the purpose of providing native reservations, Bechuanaland, Basutoland, and Swaziland are to be incorporated in the Union, General Hertzog evidently shirking the issue of providing the required lands within the borders of the present constituent States of the Union. The accomplishment of the latter part of the scheme is, however, out of the question—at any rate, for the present. The Imperial Government has obligations with these native States which must be interpreted not according to strict legal phraseology, but by the spirit in which the natives regard them, and until the inclusion of these native States within the Union is desired by the natives, such incorporation does not become within the region of practical politics.

Race Problem – 1925

Africa.

THE LIBERIA-FIRESTONE RUBBER PLANTATIONS AGREEMENT.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. H. S. FIRESTONE JR.

The subject of the agreement between the Liberian Government and the Firestone Plantations Company, formed to take over the concessions on the West Coast for rubber production, is still obscured by the simple fact that the document that would throw light on it is not public property, and possibly never will be. At the moment the only individual who has seen it with whom a WEST AFRICA representative has been in contact, is Mr. H. S. Firestone, Jr., a director of the Firestone Tyre and Rubber Company of America. He is not disposed to enter into the details of it. An alert, comparatively young, business man, typical of his country, ready to give much general information regarding the activities of the organisation with which he is connected, Mr. Firestone was asked by our representative whether the company was in a position to retire from the undertaking in Liberia at any time. Mr. Firestone said they were like any other private business concern, free to retire by cutting their losses, if any arose. This question was submitted in the knowledge that the Firestone Company have an international reputation for seeing anything through, that they finance their own propositions, and that the record of the company is one of unquestioned efficiency and practical interest in the welfare of their employees.

Asked whether the British Government would be supplied with a copy of the agreement, Mr. Firestone said there was no occasion for the details of this agreement being made public, any more than those of any other private business agreement. Many white men would be employed in the administration of the company in Liberia as the work proceeded, he said, in answer to another question.

Mr. Firestone pointed out the magnitude of his company, its interest in the welfare of its employees, and its admitted ability hitherto to carry out anything it engaged to do. Mr. Firestone was extremely courteous. His courtesy was natural rather than studied—and quite rightly anxious to impress the progress of the company on the mind of his interviewer. It has, in fact, this year celebrated 25 years' service. Beginning in August, 1900, the industry to-day expresses the early and present activities of the man whose personality—his vision, integrity, energy and high purpose—has been responsible for its success. This is Mr. Harvey S. Firestone, the President. One gathers that personal relationship is a great factor in the history of the company. If figures are interesting, here, in connection with the company, it may be stated that in the first three years (1900, 1901, and 1902) of the company that began with 50,000 dollars capital, no profits are shown. Profits began in 1903 with 8,503 dollars, rising steadily to 8,116,689 dollars in 1924. In answer to a further "feeler" on the agreement, Mr. Firestone Jr. said it seemed to him that it was desirable that the public should know, not the details of the agreement, but that his company would carry out what they undertook to do. "It is, from our point of view," he said, "just a straight business proposition." In 1922, he went on, sketching the history of events leading up to the agreement, the rubber position seemed to us "bad economically," because of the Stephenson Restriction, which artificially interfered with the natural laws of supply and demand. The Firestone Plantations Company was looking after itself. "It is just common sense. My father is looking after more rubber and a better control of supply. Estimates show the world will have to have more rubber. The demand is increasing, and before the time the rubber trees that are planted now are bearing there will be a scarcity of rubber. Three years ago father sent out experts to every likely rubber-producing country in the world, with the result that we came to the conclusion that Liberia is the place." Firestone Plantations Company have negotiated with the Government of Liberia for 1,000,000 acres on a 99 years' lease. Mr. Donald Ross is in charge, and sailed for Liberia last Saturday, with a party of planters who are going to start work immediately and establish the places they have selected to open up and plant with rubber. Generally speaking, the majority of these planters are Englishmen, but it is a mixed personnel, including American and Dutch planters. They are going ahead just as fast as they can physically and economically. The agreement was negotiated in Liberia and partially in America, and that is where Mr. Edwin Barclay signed it. On the question of 1,000,000 acres, Mr. Firestone said it was, of course, a matter of gradual development and widening activities, not of immediately planting that entire area. He could confirm the statement that there will be a harbour, that is, a breakwater and wharf, at Monrovia, to be engineered and built by the J. G. White Engineering Corporation. It was only a matter of organising to go ahead, as the surveying had been done. For some time now they have had a small plantation of about 2,000 acres, from which they have been shipping rubber to Akron, Ohio. The growth of plantation rubber is indicated by the following figures. In 1900 the production of crude rubber amounted to 53,886 tons of wild rubber and the planted area, in acres, was 1,082. In 1924 the proportion of wild rubber was 29,610 tons and the planted area, in acres, was 4,266,000. At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. Donald Ross chanced to enter, and immediately confirmed all that Mr. Firestone had said as to his opinion of Liberia for rubber planting. "I went to Liberia twice," Mr. Ross said—"on the first occasion to report on its possibilities for the Firestone Plantation Co., and on the second to plant rubber. The experts who went there after my visit agreed with me that Liberia is the best place in the world for what we want. I go out there to-morrow (Saturday last) with a party to start operations."

What the Liberian Minister Says.

At the Liberian Legation, where a WEST AFRICA representative called to ask for a statement of the facts concerning the agreement entered into with the Firestone Company, Mr. C. W. Dresselhuys, the Liberian Minister, confessed that he had not seen the agreement. It had not yet been submitted to the Liberian Legislature, but he did not doubt it would be confirmed. Mr. Dresselhuys was amused at the courage of the criticisms of the agreement by various newspaper writers, who could not pretend to know its terms except from an unconfirmed statement that came from America. He pointed out that, as is the case in other parts of West Africa, transport is the great question in Liberia. Yet they were opening up many motor roads there now, under President King. There did not seem to be much difficulty in making these roads, as the chiefs were friendly. "The more the country is developed the more the chiefs will see their own interest in getting communication with the coast." The country is very rich, the Liberian Minister pointed out, and there are certain to be great changes during the next few years. In the course of a tour of Liberia he had seen thousands of unemployed men who would be willing to work if they had the chance. When these thousands of Natives were taught to require other things that might be regarded as luxuries, in comparison with their simple needs, they would be very willing to work. At present, coffee, palm and kola nuts are brought to the coast on a journey that may take ten days from the interior, while the return journey is another seven days—seventeen days in all; but road building would make a great difference to the question of transport. There were no great rivers to be encountered in building roads, as Mr. Dresselhuys indicated on the map, and such streams as would be met with would be easily bridged even when swollen in the rainy season. "The collection of taxes is very much easier than it used to be," he declared. As the Firestone Company is starting in twenty different places there will not be much difficulty in getting the labour. Mr. Dresselhuys confirmed that experts had been sent all over the world by the Firestone Company before fixing on Liberia as the ideal country for rubber production. In view of the fact that he had not seen a copy of the agreement the Minister could say nothing definite about it.

The Minister added that he knew that there is nothing in the Firestone agreement to prevent British or other foreign companies, who may desire so, from also engaging in rubber cultivation in Liberia. The Firestone Company's rights are confined to selected areas, which they may take up from time to time. Millions of acres are still there for others.

Mr. Robeson and Dr. Aggrey at the U.S.A.D.

On Tuesday evening, at Student Movement House, Russell Square, the Union of Students of African Descent entertained Mr. Paul Robeson, the Negro actor, of "Emperor Jones" fame. Mr. Blay, the president, introducing Mr. Robeson, expressed the pleasure of the members to have with them Mr. Robeson, whom many of them had seen on the stage. He also expressed the appreciation of the members for the able way in which Mr. Robeson had demonstrated to the British public what the Negro could do in dramatic art.

Mr. Robeson, in reply, said it was indeed a pleasure to him to have had such an association with his kinsmen in London, as he felt quite at home with them. In America every intelligent young Negro had a keen interest in Africa as the land of his ancestors. Although the American Negro had no intention of returning to Africa *en masse,* he thought much good could be done by sympathetic understanding and co-operation. The American Negro was holding his own in the world of art. He had given to America the only music which she could boast of—a music which, of course, had its origin in Africa. Dr. Aggrey, who was also present, was asked to say a few words. He said that Mr. Robeson, like his father, was a preacher, but he had this advantage over his father, he preached to a greater audience. The Negro was a born actor. He acted when walking and even when working. If Mr. Robeson were to stand up to sing and stood still while singing, he, the doctor, would have thought that Mr. Robeson had lost his African origin. The Negro acted when singing by swaying here and there and carried his audience with him. Referring to the development of Negro drama, Dr. Aggrey said that he would like it developed on lines devoid of any racial antagonism and bitterness. He would like to see all the characters representing humanity at large, but not a section. He said that opportunity would be given at Achimota for the development of African drama and that the world might yet hear of great operas greater than any yet heard.

West Africans in the Bar Results.

The Council of Legal Education, on Thursday announced the results at the Michaelmas examination of students of the Inns of Court held in Gray's Inn Hall on October 6, 7, 8, and 9. The following West Africans appear in the list of successes: Roman Law, Class II, Samuel Ayodele Thomas; Class III, Otto Isaac Emanuel During. Constitutional Law and Legal History, Class II, Joseph Boakye Danquah; Class III, Edward Ochir Asafu-Adjaye, Edward Kofi Bossman, and Samuel Abraham Okai-Idun. Criminal Law, Class II, Edward Kofi Bossman; Class III, Maurice

Augustine Shorinola Siffre. Real Property and Conveyancing, Class II, Harry Augustus Hayfron Benjamin; Class III, Thomas Ekundayo Williams. Final Examination, Class II, Jibril Martins; Class III, Charles Frederick Hayfron Benjamin, Ebenezer Emmanuel Hammond Laing, and Felix Olatunde Vincent.

WHAT WE THINK.

AN EPOCH-MAKING SUDAN ENTERPRISE.

Enterprise, courage, and forethought have their victories no less important in their effects on the well-being of the Empire than fortuitous incursions into the region of Mars. The history of the Sudan Plantations Syndicate is indeed an epic of well-directed endeavour, the successful combating of disadvantages imposed by Nature, and the bringing into being of an industry which, by creating local contentment, has transformed a turbulent area of no economic value into a peaceful and prosperous section of civilisation. The way which has finally led to success has been long, and at times beset with many difficulties and disappointments, but after twenty-one years of unremitting labour, Mr. Frederic Eckstein, the respected chairman of the company, has the definite assurance that he has built well and wisely. Not alone for personal gain have Mr. Eckstein and his associates laboured, but rather to the provision of a source of supply of cotton upon which Lancashire could depend, and which would keep misery and want from the homes of thousands of British workmen. The Syndicate was formed in 1904 as a private undertaking with a capital of £80,000, which was gradually increased to £600,000, valued in the Stock Exchange at approximately £5,000,000, the present number of shareholders exceeding 2,500, which indicates the widespread interest accorded to the operations of the company and the confidence inspired by the directors and staff. The Syndicate began operations in 1904 at Zeidab with the cultivation of a few hundred acres of land. To-day, including the work of the Kassala Cotton Company, in which Sudan Plantations is largely interested, the company has 100,000 acres under cultivation. What this means to the country can be gauged from the fact that there are 10,000 tenants on the company's lands, so that, altogether, there cannot be less than 50,000 men, women, and children owing their homes and welfare to the activities of the company, a consequence brought about by private enterprise and wise Government co-operation, helping, and not restricting, the task of bringing peace and affluence into what was until quite recently one of the wild places of the earth. The experience gained by the company's staff in overcoming the troubles connected with successful cotton cultivation has had the inevitable result of enlarging the field of activity, and it is not therefore surprising that the enterprise of the company has been evoked to establish a cotton-growing undertaking in Brazil, which Mr. Eckstein regards as a country pre-eminently fitted to raise good quality cotton. At the recent annual meeting Lord Lovat said that when he first visited Wad Medani, the centre of the company's operations, at the end of the Mahdi campaign, it was a wretched little village of mud huts, in which the people lived in fear of their lives, raided by the Mahdi, on the one hand, and, just down the country on the Blue Nile, by Abyssinians, on the other. On this wonderful three million acre plain only sufficient grain was scratched up to supply food for the natives, and there was nothing else. To-day this plain, to the extent of 300,000 acres, is already canalised and ready for cultivation, and the company is growing 80,000 acres of cotton, not to mention other crops. A great work has truly been accomplished, a permanent monument to the man who has given to his country such a prize, a man who, as Mr. J. A. Hutton said at the meeting, was carrying on a work which was doing an immensity of good not only for the Sudan, but "the poor devils up in Lancashire." In every way, and in addition to his record pioneer work at the Rand, Mr. F. Eckstein has proved himself not only a captain of industry, but a worthy son of the Empire, whose name will be numbered among those whom the country delighteth to honour.

Legislation Without Consultation.

When General Hertzog visited Umtata recently he was faced with a comprehensive number of intelligent questions framed by the Native Welfare Association. Among these was a complaint that the present Government had not done its duty in the matter of arranging for consultation with representatives of the Bantu previous to launching legislative bills in Parliament seriously affecting them. The Premier made the surprising reply that "he did not know whom they expected the Government to consult in behalf of the Natives but the Native Affairs Commission."

It would hardly seem worthy of any detached critic to suggest that the Minister for Native Affairs could possibly be ignorant, or oblivious of the commonplace fact that five years ago the principle was unanimously established by the Union Government in Act 23 of 1920 that the Government would arrange for the direct consultation with the Natives in all cases of importance pending legislation concerning the Bantu.

General Hertzog's ministry has within a few months of its existence ridden roughshod over this accepted principle by introducing into Parliament without consultation with Native leaders, an alarming large number of bills fundamentally affecting long enjoyed privileges on the part of the Natives such as: The Colour Bar; Industrial Segregation; The Blanket Tax; The Wages Bill; Masters and Servants; Criminal Procedure; Liquor Amendments; and so forth. His defence is that he consulted the Native Affairs Commission and did not know who else to consult!

The Commission, we agree, is a body presumably with a large general knowledge of Native circumstances throughout the Union; but in the name of all the Bantu in the Union, we submit they are not good enough to be placed as direct substitutes for the Natives themselves in such vital questions as we have enumerated. The cabinet of ten Ministers may as well dispense with the whole of Parliament for the same reason.

We do not think General Hertzog can seriously uphold the proposition that the consultation principle contemplated in the 1920 Act begins and ends with the three officers of the Native Affairs Commission. Such an interpretation of the Act cannot pass by unchallenged, for it is too circumscribed to be of any political value to the five millions of natives who regard that Act as an important advance in their liberties. We therefore trust the Premier will not bind himself by the narrow precedent in his future policy.

Rand Native Mine Labour.

[By S. M. B. Ncwana.]

Part I.

We very much doubt whether the native workers in the sub-continent can ever pay a sincere complement to the Native Recruiting Corporation Limited as a genuine friend and well-wisher of the black workers. It is to the present Chamber of Mines through its Chief Labour Agent, the Native Recruiting Corporation Limited, and its press and native politic supporters have been able to decieve the world into the belief that the thousands and thousands of the workers of this country under its service are being well cared for, plus the maximum rates of 2/3 per shift. Every intelligent man knows that in substance and effect the compounded native labour system of to-day on the Rand Mines, is nothing less than the Negro slavery system of seventy years ago.

The black worker contracted to the Native Recruiting Corporation Limited to labour for a hand to mouth wage is of the most illiterate class of the Bantu. These people have absolutely no say in the matter of their earning and condition of their employment.

The austere and rigid conditions of their contract of service with the N.R.C. are almost the same with those of the convict labour battalions of the Union. How do the workers live in the compounds? They are shut up on the mine property in close and well-guarded barracks which they dare not leave without the written permission of the "Compound Boss," and which they seldom leave between their arrival and departure, as in the Dismond Mines where the system is more rigid and barbarous. The native workers in Kimberley are not allowed out at all, and terminate their contract of service with three days under guard, having their hands muffled and tied up and a strong purgative applied to cleanse their stomach of any mine property. The Native Affairs officials are always there to see that these black fellows comply with the terms of their contract in the interests of the mining shareholders.

The question of the rates of pay of the black workers in the mines is dealt with unfavourably by the Board of the Native Recruiting Corporation Limited. All the mining companies on the Witwatersrand pay wages according to the schedule of wages laid down by the Board of the N.R.C.

It may still be remembered that the Native Grievances Enquiry Commission in its report of the 27th May, 1914, severely criticised the "Maximum Average" Clause insisted upon by the Board of the Native Recruiting Corporation; the Commission contended that the earnings of native workers on tramming and shovelling piece work were thereby unduly restricted and efficiency directly penalised.

Race Problem – 1925

Africa.

THERE growing interest in Africa and the African peo , and to our very great pleasure the motive of pproach is gradually becoming more sympathetic and more Christian, despite wild reports to the contrary. Four years in Africa revealed the fact that the truth has not been fully told of the people of the earth's greatest continent, even by missionaries, their friends. This is due to many reasons; chiefly among them are the following. First, it is next to impossible to know how a man thinks until you have mastered his speech. Second, the culture of Africa is not found in the marketplaces any more than you would find the culture of America in the "dives and districts" of our cities. Third, most people go to Africa thinking that the African has no contribution to make to civilization, assuming him to be a fool. To such persons the African never reveals his secrets, leaving them always the prey to foolish prejudices. When the writer was honored of the church to work in West Africa, there was no pains spared in the effort to see Africa as Africa is. To do this one must make a sympathetic study of the systems of training of the people. To be brief, we are going to ask the reader to follow us in a short explanation of the institutions of West Africa, and let us start with the famous institution of the Vai tribe, known as the "Devil Bush." What is a Devil Bush? In the first place, the name is not of African origin. It is composed of two clearly understood English words—*devil-bush*—that have no direct relation to any of the African dialects. They are therefore misleading. Instead of being devil factories—as their names would indicate—they are institutions of learning, where music, weaving, tanning, dancing, obstetrics, etc., are taught. On festival days they attire themselves as comedians, according to ancient customs; some afoot, others on stilts, and yet others to dance in ropes suspended to the top of trees. And they look so much worse than the people we call comedians when they burst upon you—half in awe and half in ecstasy. As they stalk about you, singing and dancing and prancing, you find yourself agreeing "that they are devils." Does the writer actually know that these secluded places are schools? Yes. I have slept in towns that fostered these institutions, and I have been awakened at daybreak by the melody of their morning enchantments. I have talked with superintendents of boys' and girls' schools (Gbellee and Sandee). I have seen minor cases of surgery successfully performed. I talked with two girls on their commencement day who had been trained in midwifery, and best of all, I have gathered, as many others have, products of their handwork, which prove rare training.

The question naturally comes, "Why is so little known about them?" The answer is, since the overthrow of Egypt by Southern Europe and Western Asia (when the arts of Africa suffered violence) he has since that time determined that never again should a white man or persons trained in civilized countries be permitted entrance to his institutions. To do so subjects one possibly to death. For three thousand years the people of Africa have sustained and propagated those wonderful arts of Egypt and the Sudan as possibly the greatest secrets of all times.

Sasswood is another greatly misunderstood custom of the people of the west coast. Sasswood is more of a judicial test than anything else, and is only administered after trial of a person who professes innocense when overwhelming evidence is against him; and then with the permission of the king. To prove oneself not guilty of a crime with which one is charged, one must drink a deadly poison, trusting in the God of the innocent to cause him to heave the poison and thereby prove himself true, and loyal, and innocent. You say this is brutal and inhuman I know of institutions in civilized countries where the poor victim does not have a chance to prove innocence by law at all. But the merits of a custom or institution are estimated by what it *aims* to do, and how well it *executes* those aims. The African knows that when a habit or custom has been proven detrimental to society, that the thing to do is not palliate it, but wipe it out. His aim, therefore, is not punishment to the individual, but the blotting out of the custom. And when one gets away from the coast one gets into the sections where there is very little lawlessness of any kind, as lying, stealing, or immorality. The Jews learned this from the people of North Africa and practiced it for centuries. See Numbers 5. 18-22.

Marking in the forehead, another institution, must not be confused with markings placed on other parts of the body—which is done for beauty. The marked places in the face of the West Africans is due to the dishonesty of the white slave dealer. The American Negro, West Indian, etc., are not the descendants of the royal families as we have supposed. Instead, they are descendants of African slaves. The African never sold his children into slavery. He sold his slaves. When the trade was at its most fruitful period, Dutch and Spanish traders commenced to steal here and there a child of free birth. The kings immediately broke it up, exacted heavy pay for every case reported, and ordered that every child of free birth be marked in the face so that they could be easily known from those who were slaves. The practice soon became a custom, and was continued.

Among the Bassa people the practice most to be dreaded among foreigners is that of Leopard people, an institution where the members dress up in the skin of leopards and attack passers by, catch them, and supposedly, eat them. Remember, I said *supposedly* eat them, for if this was actually carried out on a large scale, there would soon be signs of dwindling population, which does not obtain in West Africa. Facts about this society are these: The leopards are in evidence, first, when there is tribal or internal strife. Second, when there is some grievance against the government, or ruling powers. The best explanation that I could gather, follows: No man has sunk so low in the scale of degeneracy that he conceives himself to be a leopard, but he dresses up as a leopard for purposes of revenge. The native man has a great many contrivances with which to attack foreign intruders. Knowing that he could not match civilized people in improved implements of war, he contrived the idea of attacking them as leopards, cutting their throats, and taking out their hearts, etc., etc. This is done so suddenly that the foreigner has often fled, thinking that leopards had attacked him. So the Bassa man becomes a leopard to do what he could not do as a human being. For in attacking a person as a leopard he does not lay his town or tribe liable to slaughter in revenge in counter attack. So there seems to be good reason why the Bassa people use the leopard trick in warfare.

The primary training of the African is done in the homes. For instance, by the time a child can talk well—between the ages of three and five—he is sent out to trade on the streets or in the marketplaces, and is very clever in money changing, so that there is very little chance to cheat him out of anything. I doubt whether I ever saw a child that was as much as four or five years of age that could not count well and handle money in English, French, American, and Liberian denominations without confusion.

"Under the Skin, In Africa," will be continued in subsequent issues under captions, as follows: Native Industries, Tribal History, and Religion. Remember, I write not to disparage what others have written, but I gladly set forth what I, with untiring efforts, strove to find out. And I do it for the benefit of those who wish to know the bright side, the hopeful side of the people of Africa.

THE UPLIFT OF NATIVE WOMEN.

Education v. Tribal Customs.

For many years educational work among the natives of the Colony was carried on almost exclusively among the young men and boys. The extreme conservatism of the mass of natives made them averse even to this, but to imbue their girls and women with new and upsetting ideas [on mothercraft and the uplift of woman] was not to be tolerated. They were kept away from the schools, and it is only during the last few years that this phase of the work has substantially developed. It is now extending rapidly.

These significant conclusions are contained in the recently issued report of the Commission on Native Education.

To the foregoing facts (adds the report) the witnesses have attributed the slow development of the mass of indigenous natives. The efforts to elevate touched only half the race, with the result that the untouched half tended to keep the other down. Greater progress may be expected during the next few years now that girls and women are coming in increasing numbers to the schools and missions

Cause for Fear.

The Bantu customs affecting their women were such as to give them cause for fear that if the teaching of Christianity prevailed trouble would ensue. The missionary bodies were unanimously against polygamy, and most of them saw much to quarrel with in the custom of lobolo, which, though not necessarily wrong in itself, had attached to it certain contingent customs which were difficult to reconcile with Christianity. One of these was the inheriting of wives by the deceased husband's brother. If his brother were a heathen man, as he generally was, the objection is obvious.

The partial collapse of tribal and parental control and the increased freedom of native women and girls, resulting partly from missionary effort, partly from legal enactment, and partly from the general intrusion of European ideas, are held by several witnesses to be responsible for an increase of immorality.

Emphasis is laid in the report on the need to use the utmost caution in trying to cure deep-seated troubles by legal remedies. The Commissioners are convinced that there is no short cut to the elevation of the native woman or to the eradication of objectionable native customs, and that laws to remedy either the native woman's difficulties or the many others which confront us in elevating the natives should be passed only after mature consideration. Because the questions involved are so largely of a moral character, we must rely mainly upon the work of the missionaries and on their organised work among women; upon their schools for native girls, upon medical work done among them, also treated in another place; upon steady but careful pressure from the Native Department; upon gradual and fuller contact with the better side of civilisation. Finally, we must rely upon legal enactment where customs are so gross that they cannot be tolerated, or when through fuller enlightenment the natives are prepared for the change.

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS BULLETIN.

PREMIER AND THE NATIVES—FAIR AND SQUARE DEAL—MR. BARLOW AND THE CABINET—AN ODDS-ON CHANCE—MR. PRELLER'S RESIGNATION.

(Special Despatch to the AFRICAN WORLD.)

The Prime Minister is on an important tour of the Native territories, principally as the Minister of Native Affairs. He has heard all sorts of views—good, bad, and indifferent—and he has dealt with Native life from almost all angles. But the matter of most importance to all of us has been the attitude of the Natives and of the Premier to the racial issue. I do not, of course, mean the issue as between Dutch and English. The Natives are much perturbed, as well they might be, over the Government's policy as regards segregation and the colour bar. They seem to see in these a further restriction of their liberty and a further bar to their progress.

Dangerous Weapons.

We were all wondering how General Hertzog would meet their objections, for those of us who think of other things than jazz dancing and the movies, realise that segregation and a colour bar are dangerous weapons—a sort of Sword of Damocles. Well, he has conquered—for the time being. He has quite impressed the natives. He has at least been very plausible. He has told them, what is perfectly correct, that there is segregation and a colour bar to-day, and always has been, and that if they did not exist the Native enjoyment of their territories would not last another day. And he further told them it was his idea that the Native should be able to rise to the highest in civil and private life if he desired to. If he wanted to become a magistrate, then let him qualify for the position; and, similarly, if he wanted to become either a doctor or a barrister, and so on. But—it must be only in the areas which were set apart for entirely Native occupation. That is perfectly all right so far as it goes, but it does not, of course, touch the question of the Native who, through stress of circumstances or personal inclination, resides outside these areas.

Fringe of the Problem.

One feels, unquestionably, that inside these territories the Native will get quite a fair and square deal, but that touches only the fringe of the problem. The stads may be able to do without Europeans either as traders or as civil servants, but the towns will never be able to get on without their Native complements, and these town Natives are the difficulty. How can the amenities and facilities and benefits of urban life be accommodated to their peculiar circumstances? General Hertzog did not touch on that phase. In the meantime we have had a further taste of the attitude of the urban Native to the conditions which surround him, in the story of anti-White propaganda which is being carried on in the Cape. The fisherfolk at St. Helena Bay, for example, are being urged to "revise" their attitude towards the European and to remember that the Natives and Coloured people should be the rulers of this country. Heaven forfend; but it shows aspirations towards higher things than life as an under-dog, and those aspirations we shall have to meet. These people cannot be bundled into reserves.

Eleventh Portfolio.

There are interesting political matters. Mr. Barlow is said to be an odds-on chance for the eleventh portfolio, but the rank and file of Labour in the Transvaal say not, and I should not be surprised to hear of startling developments in this connection before long. Then there is trouble in Labour's own ranks over a matter of discipline, and certain stalwarts on the Rand have been called upon to resign. Their policy in the Johannesburg Town Council is said not to be acceptable to the party managers, who have their headquarters at Durban, by the way. The stalwarts in question declare that they will not resign, and so there is an impasse which only a sensational explosion may be able to remove. One of them, who was in the Rand revolt, makes a very corroding comparison between his treatment by the S.A.P. Government and that by his own party. He says that the former gave him justice!

Journalistic Bombshell.

But even these matters pale before the bombshell which has just been thrown in amongst us by the editor of the "Volkstem," the Pretoria paper, who has thrown in his hand. He can see no good in the S.A.P. He can see everything that is good in the Nationalists, declaring that only they follow the Botha ideal. The S.A.P. ideal is that of the old Unionists, according to Mr. Preller. It sounds for all the world like Mr. Tielman Roos speaking. Mr. Preller also complained that the management of the paper, which has S.A.P. elements in its constitution, interfered with his liberty of expression, but whether this be so or not, the fact remains that he seems to have had quite an unrestricted say at the end.

The "Volkstem" has since defended itself; and now the question of the new editor is the point of interest. Some say that a prominent S.A.P. journalist--politician will be appointed, and here the names of Mr. F. S. Malan and Col. Deneys Reitz commend themselves. In the meantime, Dr. Engelenburg has come out of retirement to re-conduct the paper in which, by the way, he is a considerable shareholder. What Mr. Preller will do is not known. It may be that before long he will be seen in the editorial chair of a prominent Nationalist paper in the Free State; but, at any rate, his services to journalism will not be lost. That is good, because he is an able man and particularly learned in South African lore. He is a charming companion to boot, though he has never at any time gone out of his way to throw bouquets at the English.

A Bible Garden.

A very unusual suggestion has been put forward by Colonel Molyneux, of Durban. It is that a quarter of an acre of the Botanic Gardens here be set aside for the cultivation of all or most of the trees and flowers that are mentioned in Holy Writ. Every growth would be authenticated, so to speak, in that the essential quotation from the Bible would be attached to the label denoting the species. The idea has been criticised, but there is a lot in it, and people are hoping that the Colonel will succeed in his plan, and thus give Durban a unique addition to its growing attractions.

Obituary.

Death has removed three very notable figures from our midst: Mr. Johann Rissik, who was a big man in the Kruger régime and became Administrator of the Transvaal under Union; Col. Friend Addison, a well-known sugar planter in Natal; and Mr. Cathcart Methven, who was once the Port Natal engineer and the subject of a famous controversy which arose out of his disagreement with the policy of the late Mr. Harry Escombe, the father of Port Natal development. They were all men of years.

W. S. R.

Native Farmers.

THE thirty-third meeting of the Native Farmers' Association of the Keiskama River Valley was held at Lower Rabula on the 29th August before a splendid attendance numbering over a hundred In his opening remarks the chairman Mr. S Peteni observed that the association was met at the seat of its original foundation which occurred seven years ago and its branches now reached over thirty, extending as far north as Natal. He enjoined the members to greater efforts and made a stirring speech. A standing vote of condolence was then passed in sympathy with the families of two deceased members Messrs. Daniel Time and Shadrach Guzana. There was great applause when the Secretary (Mr. D. D. T. Jabavu reported that he had seen in the Umtata "*Territorial News*" that through the tireless efforts of the Tembuland Provincial Council member, Mr. W. Meaker, M.P.C., and Senator Roberts the administrator had registered the Association as a recognised body. It was also intimated that three new associations had recently come into existence, one at Glen Grey, another at Tsolo and a third at Healdtown.

In view of the visit of the Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. General J. B. M. Hertzog to Kingwilliamstown it was decided that a deputation be sent to petition the Premier for the establishment of a Central Government Native Agricultural College to serve on the modern methods of maize culti registered, bringing the total roll to 120. Next meeting was placed at Burnshill for the 28th November next. Farm Demonstrators to work in the ers being roused to heights of enthu areas of Keiskama Hoek, Middledrift, siasm with their ability in answering Pirie and Liefeldt, searching questions.

Inspiring lectures were given by the three Demonstrators in Agriculture Messrs. Ngqengelele, Sonjica and Sitela

The subscriptions realised £4 11s. 6d. raising the balance at Bank to £37 odd. Sixteen new members were

Race Problem - 1925
Africa

The Rehoboth Question

THE mandates system of the League of Nations, heralded panacea for righting wrongs of misgoverned peoples, is face to face with one of the most perplexing problems it has ever been called upon to solve. Nation 8-12-25

The Rehoboths of South Africa are demanding their independence.

To the ordinary reader that means nothing. Few have ever heard of the Rehoboths. Fewer still know who, why, and where they are. But among those few are William I of Germany, who, back in 1885, concluded a treaty granting them absolute independence; Generals DeWitt and Maritz, intransigent Boers, whose incipient revolt against the British died a-borning in 1915 when the expert riflemanship of the Rehobothans stopped the drive of the German colonial forces into the Union of South Africa and prevented a juncture of rebellious burghers and the Kaiser's troops; the present administrator of the South West Africa mandated territory, who was constrained to call upon 1,000 soldiers and several airplanes to subdue the patriotic fervor and "hopes for freedom cherished in the breasts of the majority" of the Rehoboth community—and the present Permanent Mandates Commission of the League, whose task it is to decide the respective merits of moral obligations and material interests.

For those others who are uninformed, the Rehoboths are a community or, as they declare, a nation of about 8,000 souls inhabiting some 5,000 square miles of the "most fertile land in German South West Africa." And on the fact that the land they occupy is "most fertile" hangs this story. Originally the Rehoboths were South Africans of European origin. Some fifty-odd years ago they penetrated the territory which the Germans later claimed, and squatted in their present locality. They intermarried with the natives, especially the Hereros, a tribe which Prof. E. H. Schwartz claims are descendants of the Vandals. The result was a "distinguished-looking people with a strong political sense and far above the natives in intelligence." They adopted the name of "Rehoboths" from a European missionary and set about to carve a kingdom out of the jungle. Their land lies well in from the coast and was little visited until the Germans, in their exploitation of their colony, sought to bring the community under control. This effort soon ended—chiefly because of the brave resistance the Rehoboths made—and the invaders asked for a treaty.

The pact expressly defined the borders of the Rehoboth country, recognized the government as a political entity, waived all rights of tribute or exploitation, and specifically agreed that the nation should go on being a nation. The fact that the territory was completely surrounded by German soil made no difference. And for once, according to the Rehoboths, Wilhelmstrasse saw fit conscientiously to observe its treaty.

During the period from 1885 until 1915 the Rehoboths continued unmolested. They were ruled by a kapitein or president, elected by a raad or parliament, which in turn was chosen by votes of the eligible male population. Laws and courts were set up and functioned normally and naturally. There were controversies with other tribes, the Hottentots and Hereros, but these usually were settled favorably for the Rehoboths. In 1915, with the World War well under way, the colonial German forces started their drive into Union territory for the purpose of forming a juncture with the DeWitt-Maritz rebels. They called upon the Rehoboths to join them. This was refused, the kapitein citing a provision in the original pact with the Kaiser which specified that in case Germany went to war with other white peoples the Rehoboths were to remain neutral. The colonial administration immediately abrogated the treaty and issued an ultimatum. The Rehoboths answered the ultimatum by dispatching a well-armed force to the frontier. So effectively did they dispute the advance of the German colonials that General Botha was able to suppress the rebellion and then throw his forces into position to threaten the line of communication of the Teutons.

At this moment the kapitein of the Rehoboths evaded the German lines and made his way to Swakopmund, Botha's headquarters, and with the old treaty in his hand asked the Boer general if the British would respect it should the Rehoboths join the Allied forces. Tapping the document, General Botha, according to Cornelius van Wijk, the kapitein, replied: "All that this gives you, you at least shall keep."

From then on until the end of the war the Rehoboths "stood shoulder to shoulder with the British, despite their weakness, in the struggle for liberty and right."

The World War ended. Versailles granted to the British Empire, or the Union of South Africa, the mandate over what was formerly German South West Africa. Gijsbert Reitz Hofmeyr, "a companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George," was appointed administrator. And the Rehobothan troubles began.

The administrator decided that the "Gebied of Rehoboth" was an integral part of his mandate. The Rehobothans were under administration rule, the same as the rest of the 4,500,000 natives—Hottentots, Hereros, Kaffirs, Swazis, Basutos, and others. Protests were made to the South African government, the League, the British governor generals, Prince Arthur of Connaught and Lord Buxton, and even to King George. But all to no avail. Said the Rehoboths:

> General Botha promised to respect our independence. We are an autonomous people, with our own government, our own laws, our own schools and churches . . . we are neither a community nor a union, but a people and a nation . . . living on land that has been in our possession for more than a half century.

To which Hofmeyr flung back:

> Indolent loafers, squatting on the most desirable portion of Southwest Africa . . . treacherous, unreliable people who betrayed the Hereros to the Hottentots, the Germans to the British [to which betrayal Hofmeyr owes the position he now holds] . . . ignorant, degenerate, and furnishing shelter to lawbreakers from all the surrounding region . . . seeking to arouse the native population into revolt against the government . . . cherishing hopes of independence instilled by certain Europeans and still desired by the majority.

The last an undiplomatic admission at this stage of the game.

Hofmeyr's administration has not been unsuccessful. The administrator managed, by unfair tactics, the Rehoboths allege, to secure the Old Raad's signature to a treaty which surrendered practically all the rights enjoyed under the pre-war conditions. The Old Raad was immediately repudiated and thrown out of office; the majority elected a New Raad, refused to obey the administrator's decree, and appealed to the League. The administrator countered by declaring the New Raad an illegally elected body and supported the Old Raad with military force.

> We have done all that is within our power, but to no purpose [writes the New Raad to the administrator]. We withdraw ourselves once and for all and shall no more ask your counsel or advice . . . we remain henceforth totally independent of you because we see that the magistrate and the administrator persist in forcing the people against their will to bow to the deposed raad and also even to the agreement. . . . We will not obey any laws except those of our own raad; we will serve only the laws of our fathers which are still independent.

The Old Raad appealed to the administrator, who, with law and regularity on his side, issued a proclamation. The New Raad, which, even Hofmeyr admits, represented the overwhelming majority, was abolished; all rights, prerogatives, papers, moneys, duties whatsoever exercised by the kapitein and raad and courts were vested in Major Manning, magistrate appointed by the administration.

"This is the law," proclaimed the administrator. "And as it is the law, regardless whether it is just or desirable, it must be obeyed."

But the Rehoboths—"indolent, ignorant, degenerate loafers" that the administrator regarded them—were not ready to quit. Under the leadership of their deposed kapitein and a Dowdney Drew (called a European by Hofmeyr in his report) they carried on their policy of non-cooperation. It is even charged that they were planning military reprisals (perhaps reminiscent of Sinn Fein days in Ireland). The administrator sent several hundred police into the community. Reports of uprisings among the 4,500,000 Hereros, Hottentots, Kaffirs, and other blacks drifted in. A German tramp steamer, the Nordmaark,

was captured off the west coast of South Africa, laden to the decks with rifles, machine-guns, and ammunition. It had cleared from Hamburg. Its destination has never been ascertained—or revealed.

Finally, one Sunday morning, after a flying column of 750 South African troopers had marched through a rainy night, the administrator delivered his coup de grace. With airplanes hovering overhead the Veldtmen surrounded the Rehoboth village. Taken by surprise at this move—they had regarded the administrator as a "devout churchman who would not break the Sabbath"—the Rehoboths were disarmed and some 700 made prisoners. Hofmeyr's official report tells the rest of the story:

> Four hundred of the prisoners were punished . . . fines from two to thirty pounds sterling and jail sentences from four days to three months at hard labor. . . . The manner in which the Rehoboths have defied the administration has made the natives defiant, too. . . . Martial law has been declared.

Thus the situation stands. The Rehoboths have been completely subjugated for the time being. They are a "native population." The treaty rights, respected by the German Kaiser for almost fifty years, are repudiated. The mandates commission of the League of Nations has almost unlimited power. It can recommend that a mandate be canceled or changed. It can force a mandatory power to recognize the Rehoboth pact with Germany or even grant the people independence. Or it can decide that "the march of civilization and progress justifies repudiation of moral obligations in behalf of material interests."

Eight thousand peoples are not many. Fifty-odd years' occupancy undisturbed of 5,000 square miles of "the best territory in South West Africa" does not necessarily mean a clear title to that land if "victors in the war" desire different. Despite the fact that the Rehoboths fought for the Allies they can still be considered as "conquered peoples" and dealt with accordingly.

But what does matter is that census figures show the native population of Africa, especially South Africa, is increasing rapidly and the white population is decreasing. Eight thousand dissatisfied "natives" with a "high political intelligence" can easily produce fermentation that may in time prove disastrous to the supremacy of the white rulers of the world's largest continent.

THE LEAGUE ASSEMBLY—THE MANDATES WORK.

[*By a Special Correspondent.*]

The League of Nations finished its sixth Assembly on Saturday, September 26, after a short and rather dull session of three weeks. The Protocol is rejected, but in its place the League is encouraging the formation of arbitration pacts which will secure that security necessary to a reduction of armaments. Briefly, we may say that the League has maintained its hold on the peace problem and that progress is being made.

The question of Mandates, as usual, discussed in the sixth Commission during the Assembly session, this year received more notice, as it came before the Council. The Council meeting, it will be remembered, was the important one dealing with Mosul, and it was between these discussions that the work of the Permanent Mandates Commission's sixth session came up for inquiry. Mr. J. S. Smit, of South Africa, and M. Vasconcellas, of Portugal, were asked to appear before the Council to speak on behalf of their respective Governments.

The first resolution passed by the Council was that dealing with the vexed question of loans, advances and investments of public and private capital in mandated territories. The Council declared that "the validity of financial obligations assumed by a mandatory Power on behalf of a mandated territory in conformity with the provisions of the mandate and all rights regularly acquired under the mandatory régime are in no way impaired by the fact that the territory is administered under mandate."

A dispute rose between the Australian delegate and the Council about the transfer of a mandate, but it was finally laid down as a principle that:—

"(a) The cessation or transfer of a mandate cannot take place unless the Council has been assured in advance that the financial obligations regularly assumed by the former mandatory Power will be carried out, and that all rights regularly acquired under the administration of the former mandatory Power shall be respected."

Has the Council in mind here, the possible entry of Germany into the League and the handing over to her of her former Colonies

The next resolution dealt with the extension of special international conventions to mandated territories. The Council recommended that where conventions and treaties are concluded between a mandatory and another Power, the resultant benefits should be extended to the mandated territories themselves, and that a provision embodying this should be inserted in each treaty or convention. Paragraph 3 reads:—

"Requests the mandatory Powers to indicate in their annual reports the reasons and circumstances which have prevented the application to mandated territories of the special treaties or conventions which they may have concluded with other Powers during the period under review."

Mr. Smit, referring to this paragraph, asked the Council to add after the word "report" the words "if possible and expedient." The position as regards South-West Africa was different from that of other mandatory territory, Mr. Smit said, as it was being colonised by Europeans to such an extent that next year the administration of the territory would be handed over to a representative Government. To extend every treaty and convention to South-West Africa was, therefore, impossible, as other countries would at once claim a similar extension. Mr. Smit said in such a delicate matter as this, that to be answerable to the Council if a treaty could not be extended, would cause a great deal of trouble. After some discussion, in which Viscount Cecil supported Mr. Smit, the justice of his case was admitted and the principle embodied in the resolution.

M. de Vasconcellas, of Portugal, spoke of the frontier zone between Angola and South-West Africa. The Council in its resolution had urged his Britannic Majesty's Government on behalf of South Africa to conclude a settlement with Portugal, and M. de Vasconcellas stated his willingness to sign any agreement drawn up by the Portuguese and British Commissioners for the delimitation of the frontier. He insisted that the boundary question was a separate one.

Mr. Smit answered that this question must be discussed with other questions, and insisted that it was a question solely between Portugal and South Africa and he deprecated the Council's resolution. Viscount Cecil stated that the British Government was not here concerned.

Finally it was left to South Africa and Portugal to settle, but the Council's wish for an early settlement was made known.

After working steadily at mandates and slavery, the sixth Commission presented its report before the whole Assembly on September 22. Previously in the Commission Dr. Nansen had called attention to the high death rates among Natives employed on the Central Railway in the French Cameroon, and in the mines of South West Africa, and Mr. Smit, of South Africa, had insisted on the peculiar position of South-West Africa. It was, he said, a territory with a population which comprised a large number of White settlers and Coloured people in addition to the Native population, and so it was not possible to apply a policy *exclusively* in the interests of the Natives, but account must be taken of the other elements.

The report presented to and adopted by the Assembly expressed great satisfaction with the work of the Mandates Commission, the mandatory Powers, and the Council, in carrying out Article 22 of the Covenant dealing with mandates. Moreover, the Assembly urged the extension of the trade facilities and treaties which I mentioned above.

Dr. Nansen spoke of the notable progress made in this work of the League, and instanced the recent Rehoboth disturbance, which he compared with the Boudelswaitz rebellion. In the Rehoboth affair, he said, a settlement had been achieved without bloodshed, and as soon as it was over the South African Government had despatched a Special Commission to investigate the problems which gave rise to the trouble. Speaking of the evils of the liquor traffic, he said the application of the mandates had been somewhat hampered by the obscure wording of Article 22, which contained no agreed definition of the technical terms employed in the Article itself, in the mandate, and in the Convention of St. Germain of 1919. On this question the Mandates Commission hoped soon to reach a decision. There was room for anxiety only about health conditions and the rate of mortality in certain enterprises in mandated territories in Africa, but it was possible to say that the mandates system of the League was growing yearly in strength. The relationship between the advanced and backward peoples of the world was destined to be of immense importance, and the whole fabric of present-day civilisation might depend upon finding a solution for the problems raised by such relations.

This ended the discussion on mandates, and the general feeling was undoubtedly one of optimism. In this connection I may mention discussions which I had in private with delegates and with two German observers about the entry of Germany into the League. It is here considered unlikely that Germany will insist upon special conditions of entry such as exemption under Article 16, as she can no longer afford to keep outside owing to her great anxiety over the mandated territories. Germany, if she enters the League, will be given a permanent place on the Council, and she will have her mandated Colonies handed over to her. It is felt that though difficulties may at first arise owing to the lack of experience of League supervision, in the long run it will strengthen the League mandate system. There is talk of a special "skeleton" Assembly in January to admit Germany, if the Pact negotiations are successful.

The reports of the Health Committee this year were very interesting. Speaking of the great gain due to the epidemological intelligence service, M. Velghe, of Belgium, told of the Epidemological Information Bureau at Singapore, which, thanks to the generous help of the Rockefeller Foundation, has been in operation since March 1. The services of this office moved the French delegation to propose the establishment of a similar office on the West Coast of Africa. This office could at the same time render valuable service to South America. He referred to the conference on sleeping sickness and tuberculosis in Equatorial Africa which met in London in May.

In receiving the report of the Health Committee the Assembly was glad to note that Governments are more and more inclined to collaborate with the health organisation in matters concerning the prevention of communicable diseases and the improvement of health conditions of the people.

The other work of the League has gone on steadily, and this session, devoid of spectacular events, has given us the opportunity of examining some of its manifold activities, "from the abolition of war to the abolition of passports," as Mr. Henderson said last year.

It has been an interesting and hope-giving study.

Geneva, September 30.

Race Problem — 1925
Africa.

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, JULY 4, 1925

OUR TWENTY FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

FOR twenty-four years we have regularly been before the public as exponents of African aspirations and in an endeavour to help the African everywhere to realise himself. The African throughout the world is handicapped by the circumstance that he started in the present race of nations for a place in the earth rather late; and, for that reason, he is the object of discrimination, injustice, and prejudice in parts of the world, whether he be a sojourner or living upon his own God-given land. In some parts the conditions are different and more favourable where the accident of climate in the home-land has made it inevitable that the black man should command almost the first place in his own country.

Gold Coast Leader

But, analysing conditions in every part of the world as far as the African is concerned, one outstanding fact reveals itself that until the African will have created opportunity for himself, and started and succeeded to do for himself what other races and nations have done for themselves, he will continue to remain the football of every passing gust of passion and of prejudice and greed on the part of a material world.

7-4-25

There should be no reasonable objection to the African in his own country living side by side on an equal footing with the foreigner in his country whom the accident of a superior civilisation has made the overlord. That might be the goal of humanitarianism; but the world, as we know it, is scarcely governed by humanitarian principles. Generally it is the question of the strong prevailing over the weak irrespective of what is right and just. Hence you have the spectacle in parts of Africa where the European has gained a footing and means to hold it against all olds. It is perfectly natural. It is the instinct of the wolf that has got the tender lamb between its teeth. Hence, what matters it if the African is ostracised, hunted, persecuted in his own country, and otherwise treated as a leper among the races of men? What if he is landless and a pariah upon his own God-given soil? What if his women folk are treated in a way no other race would tolerate? These things, of course, do not apply to all parts, and certainly not in every respect to British West Africa. But they do not understand human nature, who cannot see that the gross acts of injustice must appeal to the compassion of the African everywhere, and must be resented. To think otherwise will be to perpetuate the silly notion that the African has not the same feelings as other people.

No thoughtful person can shut his eyes to the open sore of the world. These things are being discussed by all manner of men outside our race; and if the African, whom the injustice affects the most, may not discuss them, may not expose them, then have we lost our souls indeed.

Suppose, then, that the heel of Asia were on the neck of Europe, and the people of the soil landless, discriminated against, the objects of prejudice and injustice, would not Europe raise an outcry, would not Europe resent it? If the answer is in the affirmative, then is it too much in this enlightened century to ask that men should regard world-problems squarely in the face away from sentiment and false delicacy? We know that these very considerations trouble the minds of serious persons of all races, and it requirss no apology on our part that occasionally we should revert to them. If we join in a world crusade to right the wrong who can blame us? If we still the dictates of conscience and of duty who can save us?

Constructively, the open wound of the world must be approached with patience and with prayer. The materially-minded cannot tackle it. They can only make it worse. The freebooting spirit that cuts up and partitions other people's possessions will, of course, have none of it. It will not even stay to listen much less to consider and amend. And yet all the while the forces of antagonism are gathering in their camps. This is also but natural. Yet reason will prevail, must prevail, if civilisation is to be saved, or, rather, if we are to bring in a new age and a new civilisation.

It is simple to choose the easy path. It is pleasant, ostrich-like, to shut one's eyes to palpable facts, to palpable dangers. It is also foolish to cry peace where there is no peace, but chaos and confusion in a world of cant, hypocrisy and make-believe. We believe we help our race and the other race to draw attention to these things. We believe in an open candid statement than in subterranean murmurings and grumblings, leading up to a volcanic eruption. That has been the role of the "Leader" in the past, and we do not intend to look back.

As a people, what part shall we play in the conflict of interests here indicated? We have our own problems of like nature, but in much modified forms. We are peculiarly fitted to promote understanding between the warring elements. We have preserved our lands. Prejudice disturbs us little, for our native pride and self-respect make us impervious to would-be slights. We have still the possession of our national soul, and, please God, we mean to hold on to it. But what of our helpless brethren scattered the world over, who are the victims of circumstances? Can we be silent in the face of their distress? God forbid.

We can by plain speaking appeal to the better part of the conscience of Anglo-Saxondom. Anglo-Saxondom can lead the world, if only it makes up its mind to lead in righteousness. Great American statesmen have projected the founding of an African state in a mandated portion of Africa. That will be a good beginning, a beginning that will prove the sincerity of those who have so sorely wronged Africa. Will England consider and help? As for us our mission is to promote harmony and goodwill among all manner of men.

THE PLANTATION SYSTEM.

WE are far from being convinced that the plantation system is the one panacea that will win the palm oil trade in favour of British West Africa as against Sumatra enterprise. We are willing to co-operate in the development of our resources, but not at the cost of losing any of our well-established systems and privileges in this country. The proposals, finally analysed, come to this, that large areas of land are to be sold outright, or granted on long leases, by the owners to European monopolists to enable them to introduce capital and scientific cultivation of the oil-palms.

The Gold Coast Leader

1925

This looks very well, but in the working out of the system it must involve the protection of the monopolist who must be secured labour to make his outlay of capital paying and profitable. We have always been under the impression that monopolies, worked under any paternal system, bring hardships among the people where the operations are carried on. In British West Africa we have hitherto endeavoured to do without this system by adopting the principle that it pays far better in the long run for the African proprietor to do his own cultivation and put the produce upon the soil. At present the African farmer unfavourably with British West African palm product, manufactures cocoa, therefore monopolies must be granted sells to the European. By to British capitalists to equalise the com- suggested he will be put petition? and he will become a mere present system of the free cultivation of raw product, which is far clear that we in West Africa have not since he can scarcely the remotest intention of changing our argument, carried far enough, our own lands in favour of any system apply to other industries, that, directly or indirectly, may have the to prevent it being proposed tendency of making us serfs, upon our because cocoa plantations own land. This question has been thrashed appliances and European out in the past, and we had hoped that n established, say, in the there was no possibility of reviving it in

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any new shape or form. The Concessions Ordinances of the Gold Coast and their history afford ample evidence of this. In a horticultural and an arboricultural grant satisfactory provision is made for the protection of the grantor and the grantee; and we do not know of any circumstance that calls for further provisions except on the suggestion that the term is not long enough. But at the time of the passing of the these Ordinances it had been carefully considered and the policy adopted that it would not be wise to grant unduly long terms as, for example, in the case of a mineral grant. Now we are told that not only are the terms of the grants sought to be lengthened beyond what was considered to be expedient, but the African land owners are to be asked to sell their lands out and out for the purposes of these monopolies. Now when once you let loose this system upon the country, it will be the thin end of the wedge and there can be no knowing how far it may arrest our national and economic progress. On the whole we cannot say that we favour the proposed system.

Now let us study the actual conditions with respect to this industry past and present. At one period before the war the Gold Coast was one of the biggest oil-palm exporting countries in the world. The oil-palm grew naturally here, and the cultivations of it can be enlarged to any extent by the proper incentives. Those incentives are a steady market and good prices. Of both in the immediate future the promoters of this scheme must be satisfied, or else it might prove a dangerous experiment to the monopolists. If it is, therefore, going to prove a profitable concern to the capitalists, it is obvious that with the proper inducements the African peasant proprietor can be got to increase his output as in the case of cocoa. And this can be done by object-lessons by the Agricultural Departments as is the case at present in the cocoanut-palm. As to the question of machinery for treating the oil-palm on an extensive basis, the same argument may apply to timber, copra, sisal, and almost any other enterprise. If, because the peasant proprietor has not got the money to buy expensive machinery for the preparation of his crop you are going to buy him out of his land, then it will lead to wholesale monopolies in almost every industry. Besides monopolies have something distasteful about them that British West Africa must consider carefully before its introduction into our system. Our brethren in South Africa and in East Africa have been done out of their proprietory rights in favour of European settlers, which is but another name for European monopolists, and we sincerely trust and hope that the experiment will not be extended to British West Africa.

PORTUGUESE AFRICA.

Our Delagoa Bay Letter.

("African World" Correspondent.)

LOURENCO MARQUES, November 12.

The Convention—First Stage.

Now that the first meeting of the delegates has taken place it would be wise to review the whole situation. Speculation is rife regarding the course of events both preceding and at the first conference. Before convention conversations were actually started the port was visited by the Prime Minister of the Union, who made no secret of his satisfaction and surprise to find such a fine natural harbour so well equipped and a railway complete in every respect. The visit was followed by the Union Minister of Railways and Harbours, accompanied by a member of the Railway Board, and these gentlemen likewise expressed admiration of all they saw; indeed, the Minister of Railways and Harbours went further and expressed the feeling of satisfaction it would give him had he such a port in the Union. But the greatest cause for speculation came from the fact that when actual conversations began the majority of the Union Ministry were present as delegates. What is the meaning of giving such prominence to convention matters? is asked by the more thoughtful of the community. In the history of such matters, it is asserted that there is no precedent for such a demonstration. Neither in Europe nor Africa has there ever been such a display of the kind. In previous negotiations with the Province of Mozambique only one responsible Minister took part, but in those now proceeding six are actively engaged in discussing matters pertaining to what after all is a purely commercial agreement. Not only are these Ministers deeply interested in the negotiations, but they have a most able staff of secretaries and technical advisers, including Sir William Hoy, whereas Mozambique is represented, apart from the High Commissioner and the Chief of Cabinet, only by the Secretaries of Finance, Interior, and Public Works. Such a display, therefore, has given cause for many to enter the field of speculation on a hypothesis which may lead them far from the truth. It may be, though many doubt it, that it means only a real and friendly desire on the part of the Union Government to show how desirous they are to come to an understanding based on a close friendship, and to work together for mutual advancement. Such thoughts are hard to dispel, and they cannot be ignored.

It would be wrong to conclude that His Excellency the High Commissioner is affected by such speculation; from what we can gather, he is steering the course he set before himself—that of arriving at a commercial understanding, free from political bias. Commercially, under certain conditions, he offers to the Union facilities for the entrance and dispatch of its goods through the port of Lourenco Marques, with a minimum tonnage with a maximum that can be easily handled, conditionally that railage charges are based on commercial and not political lines. I understand such an outline was made clear to the delegates, and after considered conversation thereon sectional committees considered the various matters outlined. The result of these deliberations were, I believe, only preliminary, and both sides adiourned for further consideration—that is, each section required further time to go into the proposals made. No doubt the port and railway matters are of the highest importance to the Union. It is through such that the Province of Mozambique offers to a vast hinterland in the Union, for its expanding agricultural and industrial activity, cheap and easy transport.

Native Labour.

Regarding the supply of native labour to the Transvaal, there is not the supply available that existed when the old convention came into force. The growth of agriculture and industry in Mozambique, and the larger development now taking place in cotton culture, make it a necessity to retain a greater number of natives in the province. If a convention was agreed upon for, say, ten years, the scheme of development now on hand will naturally absorb more than the number of natives that go yearly to the Transvaal. It is quite plain, therefore, that natives must be obtained from the Union itself for its industrial enterprises. Besides, the life of the Portuguese natives in the mines has a debasing effect upon their manhood, as they return affected with venereal disease, which spreads, and is seen in their offspring. Indeed, such disease is fast depleting the male native population.

The Sugar Industry.

Another matter that requires close attention is the sugar industry. This industry has grown, and is fast developing to something like 150,000 tons annually. From the time that Lord Milner agreed to the *modus vivendi*, sugar entered the Transvaal on the same conditions as from Natal. Capital for such industries came freely from Europe. At that time a considerable tonnage went to Portugal, but to-day, with the development of the industry in the Portuguese colonies, the tonnage from Mozambique has declined. During the war period the demand for sugar in Europe was great, but now beet sugar is being again supplied, and, if the experiment taking place in England with the production of sugar is a success, the market there will become a vanishing one. Moreover, the British Government is doing its best to encourage Dominion produce, and it is favoured by protection against foreign sugar; besides, the price of sugar has gone down so considerably that the Mozambique industry is jeopardised. If, as is rightly contended, the British and European capital which has been invested in the industry here, and for over twenty years has enjoyed the benefit of favoured entrance to the Transvaal, in equity, be taken away such a privilege would be not only prejudicial to invested capital but a serious injustice.

In resuming conversations in Pretoria this month, these outstanding questions will be dealt with, and the solution agreed upon will form the foundation of a new convention.

But, on the other hand, the message of the Union Premier to one of the Portuguese journals here has to be considered. In it he states that there are many "conflicting interests" to be considered. But the word "conflicting" is somewhat ambiguous. Does it mean with reference to the Union or Mozambique? Most people believe it applies to the four provinces of the Union. If that be so, then one arrives at the business-like desires of the Transvaal, especially of Pretoria and Johannesburg, to have a real business agreement with the Province of Mozambique, that Natal would desire to have a more political arrangement, while the Cape would desire artificial rates for goods passing through its ports. Thus geographical considerations and cheap means of transport, with the admittance of sugar, may be desired by the Transvaal, but such would be opposed by the other provinces. If a mutual agreement cannot be arrived at between the Union provinces, then it is possible that matters will remain as they are, and exporters may have the choice of selecting the port of entry or exit which is most suitable to them. The feeling down here is not a unanimous one that a convention be entered into, except on purely business lines, giving the railway its just advantage in mileage: which, after all, would effect a great saving to the Union Railway system in running costs and the return of trucks. There is no doubt that 50 per cent. of the trucks engaged in port service, if utilised on geographical lines—coming to this port—would lessen the necessity for the purchase of much of the rolling-stock now considered necessary.

A WEST AFRICAN M.A.

The degrees of M.A. and B.C.L. were conferred on Mr. Ladipo Solanke, of Egbaland, at the Convocation held in Durham on Tuesday. The ceremony took place in the hall of that ancient and very historic castle, built in the time of William the Conqueror and now the University College of Durham University. Rev. B. L. Thomas, of Sierra Leone Grammar School, now at Hartfield College, Durham, was present, together with a young English gentleman (the Rev. J. L. C. Horsted) of University College, Durham, who may within a few months join the staff at Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone. Many friends will join us in cordially congratulating Mr. Solanke on his success.

MR. LADIPO SOLANKE, M.A., B.C.L. (Durham), in the national "Ogboni" dress of Egbaland, Nigeria.

Race Problem – 1925.

Africa.

THE LAND QUESTION IN EAST AFRICA.

UNDER the heading, "The Black Man's Burden to-day" and sub-heading "The Real Issue" we published in our issue of May 2 an important article by Mr. John H. Harris who is well-known to our readers as one of the foremost champions of the cause of African freedom from exploitation and economic slavery. Mr. Harris has been before the political world for several years past in connection with his position as the Secretary of the London Aborigines Society which has direct connection with the local Gold Coast Aborigines' Rights Protection Society. The immediate issue raised by Mr. Harris is as regards the importance of Africans working on their own lands as proprietors, or peasant proprietors if you like, as against being compelled to work on land originally theirs but now owned by Europeans, to put it in Mr. Harris's own words, "white-owned plantations with coloured native labour." This issue has arisen in Kenya Colony, East Africa, by reason of its coffee and cotton output.

In essentials the problem, as above put, is as old as mankind. In other words, it is a question whether the strong has the right to exploit the weak for its own advantage, which is the same question, whether slavery, direct or indirect, shall be permissible. Of course the point thus nakedly stated there will be few who will openly declare in favour of it. But such is present day hypocrisy that, though meaning the same thing, men will pretend otherwise. The argument in favour of compulsory labour is justified by the so-called necessities of civilisation. The civilised man must have cotton for his looms and must sip his cup of coffee of a morning, and his necessities, knowing no appeasing, must be satisfied whatever moral consequences are involved. That is the prime reason why syndicates, groups, and powerful individuals, like Lord Leverhulme, openly advocate compulsory labour, and the danger point is reached where governmental sanction is sought or promoted. At that stage we come perilously to the state of opinion which egged on a former Belgian King to perpetrate the Congo atrocities whose stinking miasma at the time filled four continents.

During the time of the great war men openly said that for Belgium's sin to Africa a righteous God was punishing her measure for measure well pressed down. Her daughters were raped, her innocents were ravished, her precious relics despoiled and laid low. It is only seven years since the armistice, and we are apt to forget the lessons of history in our greed for gold and treasures that do not abide. But, of course, those are vain considerations for the average twentieth century man of business whose god is money and his belly. Therefore to the facts.

What is deplored by Mr. Harris in this article is the fact that the commission that was appointed by the late Governor, Sir R Coryndon, supports by its recommendations the bringing of administrative pressure to bear upon Africans to work for white employers. This is implied from the very words of the recommendation, according to Mr. Harris, namely "a judicious application of the Native Authority Ordinance."

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

(Continued from our issue of 2/5/25.)

Albert S Cann.

Hamburg.
January 19, 1923.

To the Secretary,
The National Congress of British West Africa,
Freetown, Sierra Leone.

My dear Mr. Secretary,

I regret extremely that the kind invitation of the President to attend the Second Session of the National Congress of British West Africa, which will commence on the 29th inst, lasting to Feb. 11th, at Freetown, Sierra Leone, reached me here too late for me to make arrangements to be present at this historic gathering. I am therefore writing to wish the Congress "Good Luck" and may every success attend it for this and all subsequent meetings and its well planned objects henceforward.

The Leaders of the National Congress of British West Africa have difficulties in explaining away the objects of the Congress since its inception and have met with strong criticisms and oppositions not only from our local Governors but from our people who thought the time for such an organisation had not yet arrived. The political word "self determination" used during the period of the Great War has benefitted many small states in Europe and other British Colonies, but we in British West Africa were not taking advantage of the interpretation of the word (self-determination) when our leaders decided to establish the Congress, it is because they have foreseen for years that it was the only way in which the four British West African Colonies [Bathurst—Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast and Nigeria] would be able to deal with the internal and external affairs effectually.

Some of our leaders who raised the opposition against its establishment were roughly criticised but it was wrong to criticise such an opposition because if there were no oppositions in Parliament there would never have been means of sifting points by arguments in order to ratify right and wrong and so bring about the passing of a particular Bill into law, and it is also by opposition and argument that constituencies in particular districts in England were able to elect their right members to represent them in Parliament of the House o Commons.

Perhaps those of our people who opposed the National Congress knew what they were doing at the time and I agree with them because their opposition has cleared up the atmosphere from misunderstanding to understanding and would have a voice in the affairs of the British Empire hitherto barred.

The Congress will help to deal effectually with things which hitherto the local Governments have not been able to deal with for want of proper understanding as to the internal and external state of affairs of the country. Other small States and Colonies of the world have now liberty to settle their own affairs, but what British West Africa wants is a voice in the affairs affecting the British Empire as other British Colonies have a voice therein.

The objective of the Congress will act in co-operation with the Home Governments in dealing with matters affecting the British Empire in which hitherto British West Africa had no voice and yet has had to share the burden of the result. The time has therefore arrived for all the British West African men, women and children to throw their weight in with the Congress, for the future of our country depends upon the final achievement of the object of the Congress.

Again wishing the second meeting of the Congress the success it deserves,

I remain,
Your very sincerely,
[Sgd.] A. S. CANN.

BLACK MEN OF THE BIBLE.

BY THE RT. REV. BISHOP S. A. COKER.

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." An Act of English Parliament may be passed to prevent Marriage between White and Black in the British Empire, the Dominions and Colonies; but can it prevent or put a stop to illicit connections and even secret genuine Marriage? Some English papers like *John Bull* talk glibly about repatriation of coloured men from England and a prevention of Marriage between White and Black. *John Bull* has got a reckless way of dealing with coloured men. It is full of self-wisdom and pride which, after all, is a policy of ignorance. I feel proud of my blackness and can never think of any other colour as superior to mine. I am really proud that I have a colour. I repeat with the Bible, a coloured man. "I am black but comely." But does *John Bull* think what the consequence would be, supposing Africa at present were a *power* and no *subject race* by suggesting such repatriation? Can Europe be satisfied without participating in the God-given wealth of Africa? Supposing Africa were in a position to order a repatriation of Whites from Africa, who would have the greater suffering, Africa suffer at all? I feel sure the English standing and great opportunity has been afforded to the Congress since its first meeting at Accra and as a result of the deputation of selected leading members to London the main objects of the Congress's programme have been fully explained not only to our people but the Governors of the respective Colonies concerned have had time to reconsider the objects and take a right view of the Congress but not without difficulties. Thanks to the leaders whose untiring works will go into the History of British West Africa, the memory of whose works will be left for those who will spring up after them.

It was a great mistake when it was said that the time had not come for such an organisation. I do not agree with such utterance for the British West African Colonies were not new born babes. Africa was Africa before Europe was born and Europe was Europe before Africa was born therefore they must have been twins but during the last 25 years at least West Africans have not remained idle. We have and are showing ourselves to be possessed of intellectual capabilities to deal with our internal and external affairs. Well the late war in which all British West Africans shared the burden gave the well thinking Africans something to think about for the future existence of the country and this depends entirely upon the effort of the people of our own soil.

In my opinion the practical purpose of the Congress will not only make it easy in dealing with the internal affairs of the respective sections concerned but will greatly assist in the progressive building of British West Africa, being part or a section of the British Empire. The continued education of the people for all purposes will certainly bring out more efficient and capable men from the soil. The Congress's work will unquestionably help in formulating programmes of the Colonies and

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THE LAND QUESTION IN EAST AFRICA.

UNDER the heading, "The Black Man's Burden to-day" and "The Real Issue," we published in our issue of May 2 an important article by Mr. John H. Harris who is well-known to our readers as one of the foremost champions of the cause of African freedom from exploitation and economic slavery. Mr. Harris has been for several years past in connection with to bear upon Africans to work for his position as the Secretary of the London Aborigines Society which he helped to found in connection with the local Gold Coast Aborigines' Rights Protection Society. The immediate issue raised by Mr. Harris is as regards the importance of Africans working on their own lands as proprietors, or peasant proprietors if you like, as against being compelled to work on land originally theirs but now owned by Europeans, to put it in Mr. Harris's own words, "white-owned plantations with coloured native labour." This issue has arisen in Kenya Colony, East Africa, by reason of its coffee and cotton output.

In essentials the problem, as above put, is as old as mankind. In other words, it is a question whether the strong has the right to exploit the weak for its own advantage, which is the same question, whether slavery, direct or indirect, shall be permissible. Of course the point thus nakedly stated there will be few who will openly declare in favour of it. But such is present day hypocrisy that, though meaning the same thing, men will pretend otherwise. The argument in favour of compulsory labour is justified by the so-called necessities of civilisation. The civilised man must have cotton for his looms and must sip his cup of coffee of a morning, and his necessities, knowing no appeasing, must be satisfied whatever moral consequences are involved. That is the prime reason why syndicates, groups, and powerful individuals, like Lord Leverhulme, openly advocate compulsory labour, and the danger point is reached where governmental sanction is sought or promoted. At that stage we come perilously to the state of opinion which egged on a former Belgian King to perpetrate the Congo atrocities whose stinking miasma at the time filled four continents.

During the time of the great war men openly said that for Belgium's sin to Africa as righteous God was punishing her measure for measure well pressed down. Her daughters were raped, her innocents were ravished, her precious relics despoiled and Black. *John Bull* has got a reckless way of dealing with coloured races. It is full of self-wisdom and pride which, after all, is ignorance. I feel proud of my blackness and can never think of any other colour as superior to mine. I am really proud that I have a colour. I repeat with the great Solomon of the Bible, a coloured man. "I am black but comely." But does *John Bull* think what the consequence would be, supposing Africa at present were a *power* and no *subject race* by suggesting such repatriation? Can Europe be satisfied without paticipating in the God-given wealth of Africa? Supposing Africa were in a position to order a repatriation of Whites from Africa, who would have the greater suffering, if Africa suffer at all? I feel sure the English

Continued from our issue of 2/5/25.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

Albert 3 Cann.

Hamburg,
January 19, 1925.

To the Secretary,
The National Congress of British West Africa,
Freetown, Sierra Leone.

My dear Mr. Secretary,

I regret extremely that to have a kind invitation of the President to attend the Session of the National Congress of British Africa which will commence on the 20th inst., last to Feb. 11th, at Freetown, Sierra Leone, reached here too late for me to make arrangements to present at this historic gathering. I am therefore writing this letter to Congress "Good Luck" and every success in its deliberations, which I am sure will be crowned with success it deserves,

Other small States and Colonies of the world have now therefore and may liberty to settle their own affairs, but what British West Africa wants is a voice in the affairs affecting the British Empire as other British Colonies have a voice therein.

The objective of the Congress will act in co-operation with the Home Governments in dealing with matters affecting the British Empire in which hitherto British West Africa had no voice and yet has had to share the burden of the result. The time has therefore arrived, for all the British West African men, women and children to throw their weight in with the Congress, and determined effort be made during the period of the Great War by the British West Africans in Europe and other British Colonies, but was not successful.

British West Africa were not taking advantage of the interpretation of the word (self-determination) when our leaders decided to establish the Congress, it is because they have foreseen for years that it was the only way in which the four British West African Colonies (Bathurst—Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast and Nigeria) would be able to deal with the internal affairs effectually.

Some of our leaders who raised the opposition against its present movement were roughly criticised but to-day it is these such opposition because if these were not positions in Parliament there would never have been means of airing points by arguments in order to ratify right and wrong and so bring about the passing of a particular Bill into law, and it is also by opposition and argument that constituencies in particular districts in England were able to elect their right members to represent them in Parliament of the House of Commons.

Perhaps those of our people who opposed the National Congress knew what they were doing at the time and I agree with them because their opposition has cleared the atmosphere from misunderstanding to unite

BY THE RT. REV. BISHOP S. A. CROKER.

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." An Act of English Parliament may be passed to prevent Marriage between White and Black in the British Empire, the Dominions and Colonies; but can it prevent or put a stop to illicit connections and even secret genuine Marriage? Some English papers like *John Bull* talk glibly about repatriation of coloured men from England and a prevention of Marriage between White

Again wishing the second meeting of the Congress the

I remain,
Your very sincerely,
[Sgd.] A. S. CANN.

BLACK MEN OF THE BIBLE.

good husband, so it is found not strange that a white girl or woman should do so to a black man in England. It is certainly no crime for Black to marry White, never so since Abraham's times. If all I have enumerated from the Bible have intermixture of blood in their viens including Christ, I question whether it is not impudence and even sinful for anyone in that matter to endeavour to raise a crusade against it. "But it has been proved beyond successful contradiction that there has been less than one to the million per annum of the Negro race who has even attempted to commit rape—from the end of the Civil War up to 1903; so you see that the charge made against them is absolutely false. But on the other hand, it has been the Negro women who have been wronged by white men; and if they had murdered a white man for every coloured woman that they have wronged or outraged, there would be a funeral long enough to reach around the world and the marching would never cease." (A. W. Brown, Negro Author of the small Pamphlet referred to).

It is the way the black man suffers through exaggeration. If white must come to Africa for the purpose of daily bread, why must it be a crime for the black to go to England for the same purpose? Why must the weakness of a black man be exaggerated by the white? Human nature is the same all over the globe. Everything points to only one Source—God our Creator. If I were *John Bull* and I am *sincerely interested* in the welfare of my country, seeing the shameful cruelty of white husbands against white wives, the failure of the so-called *sanctity of Marriage* my country publishes and boasts of, published every day almost through Divorce Cases and Bills of Separation with the causes leading thereto, I would spend my time, intelligence and talent towards the betterment of my country: I shall have no time for race and colour-pride as such occurrences certainly humiliate and bring a deep shame upon the very colour and pride. If after all the coloured races did to give life and continued existence to *John Bull* by the great sacrifices of their lives at the last great European War, it can have the heart and conscience after that War not only to make such a parade of its enmity, but using all the venom of pride and wickedness to move, forsooth the British Empire to entertain hatred against coloured people, we leave it and others of its kind to the retributive justice of God for their hellish feeling and unsurpassed ungratefulness. We can never forget its battle, from the same malice, against the late Colwyn Bay Institute. We shall endeavour not to allow *John Bull's wicked move* to move us to give offence to the good people of England who in the interest of the well-being of their country and children are imbued with the godly desire of "live and let live." The shameful downfall of Horatio Bottomley, erstwhile Editor of *John Bull* should have proved a serious lesson. As Africans and Black men, we rejoice and will ever rejoice to know and repeat what positions Black men occupied in the Bible, what they contributed to the welfare of the whole world, the mixture of blood between the races in that Sacred Book. Above all, we are glad and thankful that Jesus the Christ, the Saviour of the world was a man of colour.—*Eko Akete*, Januar, 3.

Finis

SLAVE TRADING IN BRITAIN CHARGED

Uneasiness is Caused in House of Lords When Allegation is Made

LONDON, June 13.—Rather a tone of uneasiness on the question of slave raiding in several parts of the world, including a suggestion that parts of the British Empire might be affected was displayed in the house of lords recently when several peers made demands for facts concerning the slave trade activity.

Earl Buxton started the ball rolling by asking the government whether the report upon slavery which the foreign secretary undertook to call for in 1923 had as yet been received and also whether the League of Nations had asked to be supplied with any available information on the subject of slavery. In northern Africa and the far east, he said, slave raiding and trading still existed, and it was known he alleged, that raids had been made in Kenya and the Sudan.

Lord Oliver asserted that there was a good deal of information on the subject of slavery in the possession of the government which the public had the right to know. The earl in this connection, said conditions in Abyssinia were much as they had always been and slavery and slave raiding existed there today.

Replying for the government, Viscount Cecil explained that the government was eager to the utmost of its power to help in the suppression of slavery in general and slave raids in particular. The League of Nations had undertaken inquiries into this subject, he said, and one great advantage of the league was that it worked with the utmost publicity. That fact alone it seemed to him, ought to put an end to any suspicion that the British government desired to hide in any way anything that its officials were doing in that direction.

Viscount Cecil went on to say that the government was prepared to place all its information at the disposal of the league. His information was that there had been no slave raids in Kenya but he would cause further inquiries to be made.

Lord Gainford maintained that from information in his possession it appeared certain that raids had been made from Abyssinia and British subjects made slaves and transported across the Red Sea and through Arabia to Mesopotamia and he could not understand why the government had no information along these lines. The subject is to be brought up again for further discussion.

Carnegie Corporation Establishes African School

The Carnegie Corporation has appropriated $37,500 toward the establishment in Kenya Colony, Africa, of a school for Negroes, according to an announcement at a meeting last Friday of the Phelps-Stokes Fund, 101 Park avenue. The school will train natives to serve as visiting teachers in the small "bush" schools in accordance with the system developed in the Southern States of this country by the Jeanes Fund. The appropriation is made from a special fund which the Carnegie Corporation has for the promotion of education in Canada and the British colonies. The gift is the result of a recent report made by the Phelps-Stokes Educational Commission to East Africa. James W. C. Dougall, who served as secretary to the commission while it was in the field, will establish and direct the new school, which will be the first of its kind in Africa.

Mr. Dougall is now taking special courses at Teachers College in preparation for his work, and is studying the activities of the Jeanes Fund teachers and the programs of such schools as Hampton and Tuskegee. He will go to Africa next Fall.

NATIVES REJOICE AS THE TYRANT LEAVES NIGERIA

Sir Hugh Charles Clifford, British Governor on West Coast of Africa, Leaves for Home Amid Execration of Natives—Battened on the Public Purse

Lagos, Nigeria, W. A.—"Good-bye for ever, to Sir Hugh Charles Clifford. These and similar shouts of praise went up here at the departure of Sir Hugh Clifford, royal governor of the 17,000 native souls in this colony for the past five years.

In remarkably frank and bitter articles the local press referred to Sir Hugh as the only discourteous individual who has represented British sovereignty in this colony since its cession to the British crown, whose administration has been remarkable for official squanderaminia, intolerable partisanship autocratic obstinacy, persistent discourtesy and irrational blunder.

The governor was so pompous that he insisted that the congregation stand to honor him whenever he attended church services on Sunday. Instead of taking a seat with the congregation he sat inside the altar rail with the priests and alcolites.

Specific Complaints

Specific complaints repeatedly filed with the home government by natives caused the recall of the governor were: 1—That he interferred with the Mohammedan religion which is followed by 60 per cent of the natives. 2—Sixty years ago British soldiers forced King Docemo to sign an agreement giving the colony to Queen Victoria forever. Docemo was to get a pension of $5,000 a year. His son, Prince Aleko was awarded a pension of $1,500 a year.

Clifford made the Prince retire to private life and cut off his pension, ignoring a petition signed by 17,000 persons which he declared was a worthless document.

Natives pointed out that he had received in the past five years in salary and allowances the huge sum of $200,000 and that he entertained the Prince of Wales on his recent trip here as if the Prince had come to see him instead of the natives of the colony.

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THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE LAST CONFERENCE.

THE resolutions of the last conference of the Natural Rulers of the Gold Coast with the Aborigines Society are of considerable national importance. They mark a further stage in the articulateness of our people, and they augur well for the future. It is apparent that these are the days of self-help, and if we go deeper in our thinking we shall come to the conclusion that most of our troubles are due to our habit of depending upon Government for everything. Although we are possessed of our own Native Jurisdiction and authority, we have made ourselves such abject, helpless people that every little thing has to be seen to for us by Government. Before we got ourselves into this abject condition, there were certainly disputes in the country, and we must have had a means of settling them, otherwise we would not have continued the constitutional states which the British Government met us. It is, therefore, satisfactory that we are beginning to go back to that self-help which will restore us to our ancient manhood.

The first set of the resolutions which deals with destoolments calls for careful study. Hitherto it has been possible for trifling causes to allow irresponsible persons with private aims to gain to fulminate charges against an Omannin, Ohin, Manche, Konor, or Fia, and the charges once made are apt to gain momentum, since the passions of parties are aroussd, and there are spoils in view for the winning side. The Goverment, having a stereotyped way of settling these matters, assumes the deposition; and the tendency in recent years has been to decide by the strength of the side claiming a majority, and not by the real merits of the case one side or the other.

We Africans have a different method of approaching such matters. The so-called deposition is taken merely as a strong protest or complaint, if you like, capable of being discussed and adjusted. From this manner of approach the object is to promote peace and harmony rather than an abrupt judgment one way or the other. For these reasons it is obviously desirable that in future the proper grounds for the destoolment of an Omanhin, Ohin, Manche, Konor or Fia should be scrutinised, amended, and fixed, and strictly followed in any given case of destoolment. In order to give effect to this, it is obvious that some local body of sufficient authority should be entrusted with the power to deal in the first instance with complaints brought against any of our Natural Rulers. The proviso that the complaint must have been first brought before the Oman naturally follows the practice of our constitution. It is also reasonable that until the Aborigines Society has failed to settle the dispute, Government should not entertain the same, and that where it has arrived at a decision the same should be upheld by Govment and all whom it may concern.

A further indication of the spirit of self-help may be found in those resolutions which deal with the plantation system. Our people are wide awake and know quite well how particular policies may affect them. They are quick to learn and already realise that, unless they are vigilant, the face of East or South Africa may easily be theirs by the methods of aggressive capitalism Hence the unequivocal pronouncement that the Conference having fully discussed the plantation system in its application to East Africa, is of opinion that such a system is inimical to the interests of Africans generally, and deprecate any attempt to introduce it to West Africa in any shape or form." And the practicality of the way of approaching the matter is shown by those resolutions which encourage instructions as to site, quality of fruit, and method of planting to the the people of the country by the Agricultural Department so that they themselves may develop oil palms, and. where successfully cultivated, adopt such means as would yield the best results. In this connection it would seem that the most important considerations in choosing suitable sites for cultivation would be transport facilities with a view to saving the enormous cost and wastage by head carrige. It would seem, therefore, that the neighbourhood of railways, given suitable soils, might be more advantageous; and African land owners and pioneers might consider the feasibility of establishing cultivations, sav, along the Central Province Railway; and there is no reason why, if the plantations succeed and mature, a number of them should not co-operate in working the fruit according to modern methods. It does really mean the output of a large capital, but if we are ever going to rise and become an industrial power, the sooner we begin to do things for ourselves and make sacrifices in combined effort in a reasonably limited way the better for us as a people.

Another resolution of a far-reaching nature is the one that deals with Native Jurisdiction. Those who have followed our political history and development will realise how closely interwoven is our land system with Native Jurisdiction. If it is unwise for any individuals or groups to tinker at the land question, no more can it be expedient for individuals or groups to attemot to formulate rules with regard to Native Jurisdiction while avoiding open discussion at a general conference of the Natural Rulers and the people with the Aborigines Society. We have reason to believe that this resolution will be received with considerable relief by our people, judging from the anxiety which has prevailed in recent months with respect to the activities of certain of our Amanhin who happen to find themselves nominated members of the Legislative Council. It was a happy thought the resolution expressing gratification at the projected visit of the Hon. Mr, Ormsby-Gore, His Majesty's Under Secretary of Sate for the Colonies, and the hope that his visit would conduce to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people. It is a prayer that will be shared in by every son of the soil.

For some time the question as to the customary way of showing respect to officials by our Naturals Rulers has engaged public attention; and it is satisfactory that the attention of the conference should have been directed to the matter. It is now authoritatively laid down that the proper form of respect according to the custom prevailing among our Natural Rulers from time immemorial is for an Omannin, Ohin, Manche, Konor or Fia on meeting another Omanhin, Ohin, Manche, Konor, or Fia of equal rank to greet themselves by handshake only; and it is considered by the conference that the time has come to bring the subject to the notice of Government in view of the frequent conflicts between Political Officers and Amanhin, Ahinfu, Manchemi, Konors, and Fias, and to urge that the same form of respect prevail between them and Political Officers. It is to be noted that the conflicts in question have arisen mostly between junior officers and the Natural Rulers, and that seldom has it been necessary to allude to the matter in so far as high Executive Officers and particularly our Governors are concerned, who have been known to be most courteous to our Natural Rulers. We trust this resolution will have the effect of laying at rest a point of courtesy of a delicate nature.

The resolution expressing confidence in the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society, if it stood by itself would be sufficiently important. But additional weight is given to it by the record that it is desired to be recognised that the members of the Society, being themselves sons of the soil, have participation in the affairs of his country. As a fact, a good many of our educated they have equal right of making representations with the National Rulers, who themselves are members of the Society, with regard to any matters of national importance these resolutions are to be forwarded to His Excellency the Governor and to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, and we trust they will receive the consideration which they deserve.

AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS AT THE GOLD COAST.

Mr. C. H. Knowles, B.Sc. (Lond.), Director of Agriculture, Gold Coast, gave an address on "Agricultural Conditions on the Gold Coast" at Winchester House, E.C., on Wednesday evening. In the absence of Sir Gordon Guggisberg, the Governor, called to an important conference at Birmingham, Mr. Lewis A. Smart presided. There was a good attendance, including Major Walker-Leigh (Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories), Mr. A. E. Kitson (Director Gold Coast Geological Survey), Mr. Barbour-James, Mr. R. Broadhurst, Mr. S. A. Hughes, Mr. W. Tete-Ansa (Accra), Mr. Max Thompson, Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Levey (General Manager, Gold Coast Section, British Empire Exhibition), Mr. Hutchison and Mr. Tulley (Culley Expressors, Ltd.).

In introducing the lecturer, the chairman said Mr. Knowles, prior to going to the Gold Coast, occupied similar positions in Fiji and the West Indies.

Mr. Knowles did not read his lecture, this being unnecessary in view of its circulation in full among the audience. He more usefully directed attention to certain general facts relating to his subject. On the Gold Coast, he said, they had no permanent population of European planters who had embarked in industries there. Its agricultural development was not due to the introduction of capital, but to the energy of the people. (Hear, hear.) The Gold Coast was not suitable for the permanent residence of Europeans, though conditions had improved of recent years. They claimed success chiefly in the cocoa trade, without much help, so far, from modern science and agricultural implements, all of which augured very well indeed for well-considered planting industry with European science and capital. The time might come when there would be serious competition with other countries and the best cocoa would be wanted. The Government would naturally like to see steps taken by buyers in anticipation of this competition. Mr. Knowles commented on the fact that the people of West Africa always required the finest brands of refined sugar, yet they had no sugar industry at all there. There was thus a large amount of money going out of the country for sugar alone.

The paper was, unlike official departmental reports, not only an account of existing conditions, but also a forecast of possible future progress. Although he did not say so in so many words, Mr. Knowles made it clear that there was much opportunity for co-operation between the producers and those interested in the purchase or sale of agricultural products. The opportunity is clearest in the case of palm products, but it is also present in the case of sisal, lime juice, sugar, and ground-nuts, and is that of the erection of factories for the treatment of the produce, either to prevent deterioration, and so increase market value, or to reduce its bulk, and consequently the cost of handling. The one or two oil-mills already erected, however, show that co-operation has proved but a one-sided proposition, the producer bringing in palm-fruits too irregularly, and this insecurity in one industry, would influence those interested in others, none of which, in any case, are likely to prove as attractive to the farmer as cocoa.

Two of the chief handicaps of agricultural progress are land tenure and labour. Mr. Knowles considered it possible that attempts by modern agriculture to increase yields and decrease costs have perhaps almost reached their limit, and that the next step must be the elimination of the "bad season," which, for the Gold Coast, means avoidance of drought. Obviously, the remedy is irrigation, but here the difficulty of land tenure comes in, for, as farmers planting long-term crops desire the European forms of conveyance of land, so those wishing to effect such permanent improvements as irrigation would demand even more complete ownership. The labour difficulty, of course, would tend to solve itself as the people acquired wider desires, for, as Mr. Knowles said, they can hardly be blamed if they labour no more than is necessary. He mentioned the possibility of a settlement scheme, families working on an estate in return for part of the crop, and for the right to work a plot for their own needs. This form of communal enterprise, however, demands much breadth of outlook on the part of those contributing the labour, as well as confidence in the heads, and seems less promising than, say, the plan being tried in the Congo, where the labour is supplied by European machinery, the owners of which receive part of the crop as remuneration.

Mr. Knowles's outline of the principal crops of the Gold Coast was a repetition of particulars given in the agricultural reports, cocoa, of course, overshadowing all other products. He gave the local farmers full credit for their industry and enterprise with this crop, and said that results showed that their methods were approximately correct. This was not to say, however, that no improvements were possible, the chief being the elimination of plant pests, which the Government was then undertaking. The compulsory grading of cocoa seemed as far off as ever, for while the present type satisfied the merchants, the farmer was sure to regard the question as academic, unless competition in the future changes his outlook.

It is interesting to note that the internal consumption of palm-oil has been stimulated by increased transport, for a Coast newspaper recently showed that the same applied to yams and other foods. This extra demand tends to increase prices, and while high prices hold locally for small quantities, the farmer is not likely to grow larger quantities at a lower price for consumption elsewhere.

Possible new industries mentioned by Mr. Knowles include shea-butter, which is dependent on better transport, while the others, as mentioned above, are nearly all dependent on the assistance of capital, and include the production of lime juice, fruit, sisal, and ground-nuts, for export, and sugar, tobacco, rice, and miscellaneous fibres for local use, the last being suitable for a rope-making industry. Most of these have been tried experimentally, but need further trial on a large scale before the real cost of production can be ascertained. The production of cotton is hopeful, if not very far advanced, the chief progress having been made in British Togoland, where a ginnery over the French border has stimulated the industry, and has also created an occupation of cotton-buying, as distinct in its way as that of cocoa-buying elsewhere. There is little probability of extending these minor industries while cocoa holds the place it does, and Mr. Knowles was not so sure that the ease of looking after one basket did not compensate for the risk of putting all one's eggs in it. Unless, therefore, future competition causes unexpected developments, the proved fertility of the Colony is likely to be exploited chiefly in retaining precedence in the world's cocoa trade.

Many Africans will be disappointed that Mr. Knowles did not mention the subject of an agricultural bank, which has received much attention in the Gold Coast press recently, but the question is such a wide one that he probably considered it outside the scope of a paper dealing with no other questions of finance.

At the conclusion of Mr. Knowles's remarks the chairman said he could not help thinking that the lecturer was speaking to the converted—when he rererred to the Government giving inducements to the grading of cocoa—with representatives of Messrs. Fry and Cadbury present. (Laughter.)

The question of the development of the rubber industry again was raised, Mr. Knowles pointing out that in 1899 West African rubber exports were well over 500,000 lbs.

Interest in the lecture was clearly indicated by the number of questions put. These referred to suitable machines for the sisal industry, the grading of cocoa, the display of samples at the West African agency that may be established. Reference was made by a speaker to the cocoa conference last year, at which "they were all really good friends. The best friends of the planters were the manufacturers." (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Knowles, with regard to the grading of cocoa, said no machine would do all that was wanted, though preliminary winnowing was good. Officers must examine the cocoa and classify it. With regard to sisal hemp they found that the machine on the Accra plantation did its work perfectly well. The cocoa grown in the Gold Coast was admirably suited to the country. With regard to the oil palm and competition from outside this would probably be met by the establishment of large mills.

Mr. Smart pointed out that rubber grew extraordinarily well at the Gold Coast. In the old days it took a long time to get a title, but to-day it was different. Quite the best managed and controlled plantation he had ever visited was Messrs. Miller Brothers', in West Africa. Anyone wishing to start planting could get a certificate of validity from a Native and labour was coming down much more easily from the Northern Territories.

Major Walker-Leigh confirmed the chairman's statements about labour getting "easier." In the Volta region he had been taking a census of "masterless" men coming down and was surprised at the result.

Mr. Kitson followed with a well-informed speech that threw much light on labour and other conditions. As Major Walker-Leigh said, he remarked, there was more labour available every year and rubber was very suitable for the country. There were also great prospects for rice grown on water.

Mr. Tete Ansa inquired what steps were being taken by the Government to show African farmers the soils suitable for the growth of sugar.

Mr. Knowles said the district round Quittah and some parts of the Western Province were very suitable, but it was impossible to go round everywhere. Wherever cane grows was presumably a good area.

Mr. Hutchison also spoke, pointing out that the advance of cocoa had drawn attention from the oil palm.

Mr. Broadhurst had no fear of the Malay threat, but it would be wise of the Government to give every possible assistance.

Mr. Smart said intending planters must not be guided by the rainfall on the Gold Coast, but by the humidity.

Votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

The exports of ground-nuts from the Gambia for the first half of 1925, show a considerable decrease on the corresponding period of 1924, the respective figures being 604,652 and 757,301 tons. Hides and skins show an increase from 476 to 542 tons, and palm-kernels from 5,381 to 6,476 tons. To increase the ground-nut production, it is proposed to construct 12 permanent seed-stores, at a cost of £7,000, a plan fully approved by the merchants.

The cultivation of the "gorli" shrub is being attempted in French Guinea, as well as Sierra Leone, for the production of chaulmoogra oil, so valuable in the treatment of leprosy.

In a circular on the financial position, the Governor of the French Soudan shows that the rise in the cost of living and the increasing agricultural and educational needs of the Colony, demand an increase in expenditure of about six million francs. To make up the deficit he proposes to increase various licences, and also the poll-tax.

Mr. P. A. Godwin has been instructed by the Governor of Sierra Leone to make a cadastral survey of Freetown.

The Sierra Leone Scouts met Mr. N. D. Power, Chief Wolf Cub Commissioner for England, on September 2, when he carried out an inspection, and presented letters from Sir R. S. S. Baden-Powell and the Overseas Commissioner. Mr. Power is visiting the Coast as a tourist, but is seeing as much as he can of local scouting.

Race Problem - 1925.

Africa

THE CISKEI CONVENTION.

IT IS highly satisfactory to otice the growing popularity the half-yearly convention or :ospective Bunga of the Natives f the Ciskei which embraces he leading section of thinking latives in the rural areas outside f the Transkei territories. Th s eeting was attended by a record rowd of over six hundred people ncluding both civilised and red people. The lecture that opened he proceedings was attentively stened to and well received, overing, as it did, a wide range f subjects. Useful information as given on health principles, he high figures of infantile m rtality among Natives due t gnorance of correct feeding, and he appalling death rats result ng from unhygienic habits. The peaker showed the relation ness facts had to the need and alue of education on health natters, and then dwelt at length pon the modern methods of griculture as demonstrated at he Fort Hare Show by the Gov rnment agents and local asso iations, urging the convention to ake full use of the facilities rovided.

With reference to political natters, the convention discussed n detail the bills that affect ns Natives as published in the Parliamentary Gazette. In regard o prospective legislation it was wisely decided that the Prime Minister in his projected visit hould be asked to explain his po icy as embodied in the following ills: Masters and Servants, Wages, Emergency Powers, Cri inal Procedure, and the Liquor aw Amendment.

The Blanket Duty raised much esentment and warm debate, ecause it was an outrageously nfair indirect tax on the long-suffering Natives, and it was decided that a protest against it be sent even at the eleventh hour to the Government through Sena tor Stanford.

The hardy annual of the pro ected Native Taxation scheme for 1926 was discussed in full, and the feeling was expressed that the sudden advance from the old 10/- hut tax to 30/- was absolutely out of proportion to the income earned (averaging £80), and also unscientific as compared with the European income tax that begins only after the £300 mark. It was clearly a case of the Cape Province suffering by reason of incorporation into a Union dominated by the Transvaal order of Native repression.

The Council system under Act 23 of 1920 was urgently desired by the whole meeting with the exception of one recalcitrant headman who, however, did not force his opposition views but preferred to "agree to differ" in personal sentiment. Here it was once again resolved that the Government be asked to apply the system without delay.

For the forthcoming annual Government Native Conference the following six names were selected for recommendation to the Native Affairs Department and Commission, to represent the districts covered by the convention: Messrs. D. D. T. Jabavu of Fort Hare; S. F. Sojica of Debe; B. B. Xiniwe of Stutterheim; E. R. Payi of Peelton; B. Tele of Kingwilliamstown and Rev. Coke Mji of Tamara.

In a discussion on the position of headmen, it was pointed out that the presence and activities of European Location Inspectors virtually rendered the headman a cypher and nonentity, and the matter was referred to the authorities for adjustment. The proceedings lasted a whole night and half a day, and the natural oratorical powers of every speaker were quite a feature of the debates.

Cis-kei Native Convention.

[16TH JULY 1925.]

On Thursday there was a tremendous assemblage of Natives representing the principal Ciskei districts at the Izeli Location, King William's Town, when there were several chiefs present and about 600 Natives, including "reds" and prominent leaders. The proceedings were presided over by Headman C. C. Madosi, the secretary being Mr. R. F. Haya, while Messrs. Khaka and Mjo acted as Press reporters.

The meetings lasted half the day, and all the night beginning with a stirring lecture of general social uplift by Professor Jabavu, who dwelt at length on the need of education and improved methods of agriculture and knowledge of hygiene amongst the Natives generally.

There was keen discussion on several Government measures and emphatic protests were registered against the indirect taxation on cotton blankets, a tax that was calculated to fall hard on the Native population. There came under consideration the new Native Taxation Bill. A long discussion ensued and it was resolved that a protest in behalf of the Cape Province Natives be conveyed to the Senate through Colonel W. E. Stanford, on the ground that the Cape Natives would suffer gross injustice from the increased taxes in view of numerous subsidiary taxes.

It was urged that the Government should introduce the Council system in the King William's Town area without delay.

It was resolved that in September the Premier when on his visit, should be asked for his policy on the adumbrated Government Bills of Emergency Powers, Wages Bill, Criminal Procedure Bill, Liquor Amendment Bill and the Masters and Servants Bill.

It was decided that an investigation be made into the relations that subsist between magistrates and headmen.

In view of the promised increase of representatives to the annual Government Native Conference the following list of six names was unanimously agreed upon to be suggested to the Native Affairs Commission and Department as delegates on behalf of the Ciskei Convention at the next conference: D. D. T. Jabavu, S. F. Sonjica, B. B. Xiniwe, E. R. Payi, B. Tele and Rev. Coke Mji.

After the discussion of a few further local topics the convention terminated its proceedings at the breakfast hour yesterday.

We cannot shut our eyes to the trend of affairs in South Africa: and although we may wish it otherwise, we must recognise some ugly facts. The *Workers Herald*, in its issue of April 8, takes up the matter of the political, industrial and religious condition of the African community in South Africa, and stresses the demarcation that exists between the European and the African communities. According to this authority conditions in South Africa are bordering on those of the United States as far as our countrymen are concerned; and it would appear to be expedient that, if possible, the Imperial Government should bring its influence to bear in order to preserve the loyalty of the African community.

CRUSADING FOR AFRICAN REDEMPTION.

FERVOR AND FEVER.

By Bishop C. C. Alleyne.

One can hardly crusade in Africa without being fervent in spirit. One cannot expect to have fervor and not get fever. At Tafo I had my first attack of African fever. Had gone to bed when a telegram came from Rev. Peters informing me that word had been received from the Bank of British West Africa that the draft was at last cashed. From that hour I began to mend. I shall never know whether that was the tonic; but the fever soon left me.

On arriving at the school chapel I found a large audience. The Omanhene, Kofi Peasah, was there. At the close of my address he spoke for the people. Among other things he said: "We thank you for coming to our village. May God bless and prosper you. Our fathers told us that some of our people were captured and carried away across the sea. This is the first time we have been privileged to see any of their descendants. The occasion makes us both happy and sad. However, we are pleased that you have come. May your coming prove a blessing to us."

Next morning, according to native custom we called to pay our respects to Nana Peasah. He received us in regal splendor. The chiefs and subchiefs were in attendance; also the councillors. For the first time we saw and heard a native crier. Despite his peculiar antics one must maintain a decorus attitude. We found in the Omanhene a very progressive ruler. He evinced keen interest in the education of his people. But complained that since the coming of the Europeans, the young people were not as respectful and obedient as of yore. He insisted that we exhort our teachers to urge upon them the retention of their native manners.

One of the chiefs also spoke. He asked that I send them trained preachers and teachers. He likewise requested that I [illegible] influence with the Go[illegible] a view of securing a train stop at this village. "This," he said, "would contribute much to the growth of the town, and the strength of the mission."

A messenger was sent by the chief of Twepiahse praying us to come and open a school in his village. I sent word that I was instructing Rev. Eshun to proceed there at his earliest convenience. His request would be considered, but he must see that his people build a school chapel and living quarters for the teachers. It will be the future policy of Zion mission to answer such calls only when the people are willing to help to the extent of their ability.

At the public meeting the native pastor of the Scottish Mission spoke by request. He expressed delight in that the gospel of labor had been preached. In his opinion industry would save Africa. But everybody wanted to become a clerk or an accountant; hence cultivation of the soil was neglected. "When," he said, "my wife lived she knitted native socks for my use. These lasted about two years. Since her death I have had to wear European made socks which wear about one month. Yet our people are discarding all native-made articles in favor of imported commodities." His was a fine, practical talk. Africa is awakening!

The Omanhene put his fine Buick sedan at our disposal, and at two o'clock we arrived at Koforidua. We were received in the usual way; save only that they sung a piece which had been composed for the occasion by Rev. Okyir. These are the lines:

Thy kingdom come, O Lord we pray,
'Tis coming soon the world shall see,
A better day begins to dawn
We're marching on to victory.
We're marching on, marching on,
We're marching on to victory;
A better day begins to dawn
We're marching on to victory.

Here the Wesleyan minister, Rev. Ernest Bruce was exceedingly kind to us. He responded to my address during the welcome exercises, put his pulpit at my disposal the following Sunday and gave us a substantial collection for our work.

The Omanhene, Nana Kwaku Boateng, also spoke. He expressed pleasure on meeting not an European Bishop, but one of his own race. He further said, "I am profoundly impressed by the good advice given to the young people by the Bishop. I shall call a special meeting of all the school children of the town in order to emphasize what has been said here today." He arranged to accompany me to all the schools.

CRUSADING FOR AFRICAN REDEMPTION—FERVOR AND FEVER

(Continued from page 1)

Here we were forced to strengthen our stakes and enlarge our borders. Koforidua is a very important centre, in a cocoa district. We were very unfortunately situated. We have no building of our own, but were preaching and teaching in very limited quarters. For these we were paying 36 pounds, and beside had to provide homes for our teachers. We had on the roll over one hundred scholars, but because of the smallness of the building we could have no seventh standard. That meant that after our children finished the sixth standard they went elsewhere and were lost to us. I leased a very commodious building for 120 pounds a year. Here we can worship, conduct our school, and house the teachers and pastor. The Omanhene was so pleased with this action that before we left he paid the last 50 pounds that we owed on the lot which was being purchased for our Zion.

Mr. Addo, from whom we rented the property, is a man of considerable means and not a little influence in this growing community. He refused thirty pounds more in order to contribute to the growth of Zion. He is a member of the town Council. There are five European members and he is the sole native representative. He told us confidentially that he was so hopelessly outnumbered he would be forced to resign. He was caustic in his references to the whole arrangement.

From here we visited Krokang, where we have a neat little school chapel. Preached to them from the words: "The ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing." My Better Half spoke after the sermon. I shall not soon forget the woman who spoke in response to her address. Choking with unsuppressed emotion and blinded by unchecked tears she exclaimed: "we here know but little about God and the way of life. We plead with our sisters in America to come and teach us. For God's sake send us the light."

Our last stop on this circuit was at Affiduasi. We have not yet built here. Had a splendid interview with the Omanhene. He promised to put my request for land before the Council, and had not doubt but that it would be favorably considered. Said he: "My people have been hitherto hostile to education. But since they have seen what it has done for Professor Aggrey they are anxious to have a school established in this village."

Accra, Gold Coast.

Educational Objectives.

THE KEY to the right [illegible] of African Native Education is a consideration of community life, with all that it involves of human interactions and responsibilities. Unfortunately the circuit of Western civilisation has too often encouraged a superficial imitation of European customs by the comparatively small number of restless Native leaders in East Africa who could cast aside their own primitive customs as undesirable evidences of savagery and barbarism. The wiser leaders are recognising the futility of artificial imitation and are seeking to develop respect for whatever is good in their own history and in their present attainments.

The Phelps-Stokes Commission Report in its chapter on "Educational Objectives and Adaptations" then discusses Character Development and says its processes are at once the simplest and the most complicated; the most real and the most indefinite; the most universal and the most elusive. The real problem now confronting African educators is the formulation of practical suggestions for the teacher who is in daily contact with pupils; for character development must be removed from the abstract realm of ethics and related to concrete conditions and the daily experiences of life. These fall under certain divisions and factors. For instance, with regard to health the following questions are submitted: How far do the high death rates of infants and adults reflect the low standards of character? Are the prevailing diseases the result, to any degree, of immorality? Does intemperance in food or drink undermine morality? Are there excesses of pleasures, sexual or otherwise, that hinder the natural development of the community?

Another factor is environment as an element of community life that includes the conditions of agriculture and industry. What are the community ways and habits as regards thrift; conservation of resources such as the soil and trees; continuity of effort, punctuality and thoroughness in work? As regards the human environment, there are such questions as the attitude towards other tribes, friendship or hostility towards the Government; the spirit of co-operation in relation to other groups, whether family, tribal or colonial.

With reference to Family Life, what are the relations of parents to each other, of parents to children, of children to each other; What is the estimate of woman in the home? What provision is made for the separation of sexes? Do sleeping facilities contribute to the strengthening of character? Is any effort made to dignify the meal?

Race Problem - 1925

Africa

AGRICULTURE ON THE GOLD COAST.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE COCOA INDUSTRY—POSSIBILITIES OF SISAL AND CITRUS PRODUCTION.

An interesting paper on "Agricultural Conditions on the Gold Coast" was read by Mr. C. H. Knowles, B.Sc., Director of Agriculture of the Gold Coast Colony, at a meeting at Winchester House, E.C., on Wednesday evening. Mr. Lewis A. Smart presided, and there was a large attendance of business men and others interested in the development of the Colony.

African World

After referring to the improvements likely to be effected in agricultural industries in the future, in the shape of eliminating the effects of the bad season due frequently to insufficient rain, or rain at the wrong time, and the importance of irrigation in overcoming this, and to the various ways in which land can be acquired, Mr. Knowles stated that two outstanding features of cocoa growing, the main industry, are its rapid growth, and the fact that it is entirely in the hands of African farmers, who farm small areas as a rule, and many of whom are illiterate.

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Cocoa was introduced about 1879 from Fernando Po by a labourer returning home to the Gold Coast. Later on seed was imported wholesale, and planting in suitable parts of the country was actively prosecuted. The Agricultural Department took an active part in the work, but the spread of planting soon outgrew the means of the department for demonstrating the proper method of planting, and many farms were on unsuitable land, and the plants were not put under the best conditions. The African farmer in his cocoa farms has hit upon an exceedingly cheap method of producing cocoa, and he will require convincing that any extra labour produces increased returns before he is likely to adopt other methods.

The main crop comes in about December to March, followed by a small one about June-July. The plants seem to thrive with little or no attention, and the treatment of the crop after reaping is not laborious. The beans have to be taken out of the pods and fermented for a few days and then dried.

Common faults are (1) insufficient fermentation, (2) uneven fermentation, (3) germinated beans due to pods being left too long on the trees, (4) mouldy beans.

Growth of the Cocoa Industry.

The export of cocoa commenced in 1891, when 80 lb. were shipped. The industry has steadily and rapidly progressed until the present time, when the production is about one-half the world's supply. Last year some 220,000 tons were shipped. The Gold Coast became the foremost producer of cocoa in 1911, and has held that position ever since.

There is no European planting in the Gold Coast—hence the industry owes nothing whatever to organised planting such as is the case with the tea industry in Ceylon, the rubber industries in Malay and Ceylon, etc.

An important factor in the increase in the amount of cocoa exported during the last few years is undoubtedly the extension of the roads and railways. Places where, a few years ago, the farmers got only a few pence per load of 60 lb. for cocoa out of a price of 10s. at the then nearest railway centre, now gets some 5s. or so. Under the previous conditions the farmers did not trouble to work up the crop, now the owners prepare their crops regularly, helping materially in the increased production.

Farms in out-of-the-way places such as these were established during the boom in cocoa in 1919 and 1920, following the conclusion of the Great War, when, owing to an anticipated enormous demand from Central Europe, local prices rose to as much as 60s. per load of 60 lb.

The Government maintains a Department of Agriculture to assist farmers over their difficulties, to investigate the troubles of the various industries, and to encourage other industries than those in common use, and a School of Agriculture and Forestry is maintained at Kunasi for the training of the junior staff of Africans.

Steps have recently been taken to deal with disease, which in some parts is seriously affecting the cocoa plants. A law has been passed requiring diseased trees to be attended to, and a staff of inspectors has been engaged. These latter will be supplemented by some of the ordinary provincial staff. The first clearing up of the farms will be done by the inspectors and their men free of direct cost to the farmer, who will then be required to maintain his farm in that condition.

The cocoa industry of the Gold Coast shows what can be accomplished with primitive methods, lack of education, etc., the aggregate of the farmers' efforts being an industry of which any country might be proud.

The industry, however, is not complete when the cocoa is produced, and the next step, disposing of it, has created a subsidiary occupation—cocoa buying. Large buying agencies are established at the big centres with branches around them. Cocoa is bought on the farms by travelling buyers, or may be taken to the buying centres by the farmer's people.

As it is likely that severe competition in cocoa-growing will develop presently, some steps may have to be taken to encourage the farmers to prepare a better article so as to be ready to compete with neighbouring countries who have been able to benefit by the mistakes of the Gold Coast. Such steps naturally would be best taken *before* the effects of competition begin to be felt.

Other Industries.

Oil palm products.—This industry has declined very seriously, due to the preference for cocoa growing, which is easier and more remunerative. There is little fear of the palm industry dying, since the oil is an important article of food, and will alwa[illegible] in considerable demand. The devel[illegible] of the industry, it is thought, is t[illegible] effected by the establishment of mills in the palm belts.

Rubber.—Para rubber grows exceedingly well, and it does not yet seem to have been proved whether African para rubber could not be produced on plantation lines to compare favourably in cost of production with other countries.

Cotton.—A very considerable extension has recently taken place in cotton growing in Togoland, due principally to the fact that in the adjoining French territory there are several ginneries established which offered attractive prices for seed cotton. The extension of this industry should be possible on a considerable scale.

Possible New Industries.

The Citrus Industry.—Lime planting has been taken up on the Coast as a result of representations made last year as to the possibilities of this industry. A promise was made by a firm interested in lime juice to erect a factory when 300 acres of limes were nearing maturity. This development emanated from the Gold Coast building at the B.E.E., and its final results were due chiefly to the energy and enthusiasm of Mr. Lewis A. Smart, who was in charge of the Gold Coast Bureau of Commercial Intelligence.

Sisal Hemp.—A plantation established by the fort near Accra has been turning out fibre for about a year. The quality compares very favourably with similar fibre from elsewhere. The area is some 900 acres, and the results seem to show that on an extended scale there are great possibilities for the industry. The areas where this cultivation is specially recommended are the dry areas near the coast in the central and eastern provinces. These areas are devoted only to small patches of food crops, so large areas could immediately be available and could be planted up at little cost, while the nearness to ports of shipment is an advantage.

Nigeria.

A Tsetse Fly Conference.

A Tsetse Fly Conference is being held this month at Kaduna. All the residents of the Northern Provinces—as many of them as can possibly be spared—are attending the conference.

Railway Earnings.

The traffic receipts of the Nigerian Railway for the week ended August 1 were £40,193, and for the week ended August 8, £43,873, making a total to date of £769,979 for the current financial year.

Customs Receipts.

The amount of Customs duties collected during the month of August was £198,879 on imports and £63.629 on exports, making a total of £1,497,675 for the five months April-August, 1925, as compared with £1,143,488 for the corresponding period of 1924.

Trade Figures.

For the week ended September 19 the quantity of produce shipped were as under:—Cocoa, 20 tons; cotton lint, 7 tons; ground nuts, 3,340 tons; hides and skins, 105 tons; palm kernels, 2,865 tons; palm oil, 271 tons; tin ore, 275 tons; shea nuts, 19 tons. The total value of imports was £107,839 and of exports £189,997.

Produce Inspection Committee.

The Government announces the a[illegible]ment of an advisory committee cons[illegible] the Director of Agriculture, another official, and four unofficial members for the inspection of Nigerian produce and for transferring control from the Customs to the Agriculture Department, with a view to secure greater purity in cocoa and other exports.

"P.Z.'s" New Home.

The well-known firm of Messrs. Paterson, Zochonis, and Co. gave an "At Home" on occupying their new premises in the European Reservation at Ibadan. The band of the 4th Batt. Nigeria Regiment provided music, and an enjoyable evening was spent by all present, who included many prominent figures in the commercial community.

Apapa Ferry Opened.

The Apapa ferry service, tenders for which were invited by the Government some time ago, was inaugurated by the ferry boat "Kathleen" in mail week. The easy means of transit from Lagos to Apapa thus provided is much appreciated by the large section of the population whose work compels them to make the crossing daily.

Mr. Hyde-Johnson's Retirement.

Much regret is expressed at the impending retirement of Mr. H. J. Hyde-Johnson, Director of Education, Southern Provinces. Born in 1868, Mr. Hyde-Johnson came to Nigeria as Headmaster of King's College, Lagos, and received his present appointment, in which his record has been one of consistent ability and popularity, in 1910.

Churchmen in Libel Case.

Considerable sensation has been caused in Lagos by the conviction of the Rev. J. A. Leigh, principal of a secondary school in the city, of libels contained in a letter, wherein the writer made allegations against the moral character of the Right Rev. F. Melville Jones, Bishop of Lagos. Mr. Leigh was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

An African Composer.

Continuing his tour in search of material for his studies of African music, Mr. Nicholas Ballanta-Taylor, the young Sierra Leonean, who has already several meritorious compositions to his credit, arrived in Lagos in mail week. A reception was arranged in his honour by the Sierra Leone community, and on the following evening he lectured on African music at the Glover Memorial Hall, an event which aroused great interest.

A Veteran Civil Servant.

Mr. A. Coker is retiring from the Public Works Department after forty-three years in the Government serivce—a length of service which is claimed as a record for an African Civil Servant in any West African Colony. Mr. Coker entered the service as a Post Office messenger in 1882, acted as Postmaster on several occasions betwen 1888 and 1901, and was transferred to the Public Works Department as Assistant Chief Clerk in 1908.

GOLD COAST LETTER.

Legislative Council Debates.

The tardiness with which Legislative Council debates are sometimes published at the Gold Coast has formed the subject of general comment, for the account of the session held last February only appeared in August. The principal subject was the debate on the present position of Takoradi, which disclosed facts that had not already been published, but showed that the unofficial members had not lost their interest in the matter. The Governor's address has long since received full notice in WEST AFRICA, and it is extraordinary that Councillors'

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criticism of Government policy could not have followed its publication within a month, which would have allowed ample time for the usual proofs to be sent out for correction. A delay of six months, even with the excuse that the Printing Department is overworked, is liable to make the "Opposition" feel that every effort is being made to obtain the full propaganda value of the Governor's address before any questions or replies by members have drawn attention to points in that composition.

The Company System.

The recent appointment of officers under the company system at Cape Coast was accompanied by considerable reluctance on the part of those elected to undertake the responsibilities of office, for, as is happening in larger organisations when faced by European customs, the ties which bind its members to discipline have become weak. In a country where the Government is fully alive to the value of such an organisation as that of the Scouts, it might be possible to help the existing company system to evolve into a thoroughly useful department of African social life. It already possesses many picturesque forms, backed by history and tradition, but with the decay of African customs the purpose of its existence has been lost. It would be interesting to know what attempts, if any, have been made to utilise the system for, say, even such purposes as the education of opinion on municipal or other local government, or the training of a volunteer brigade for use in time of epidemic.

The Social "Gap."

In an interesting article, the "Gold Coast Times" deals with the "gap" said to exist between certain classes of the people, and considers that the difficulty of delimiting its exact position proves that it is merely imaginary, and that since educated Africans belong to families containing many uneducated members, there is additional proof of the non-existence of the gap. That this view is not quite correct must be the experience of all such families, and because the barrier is not always in the same place, there is no proof that it does not exist. The fact is that between persons of the most liberal education and the others the gap is often, but not always, bridged by sheer liberality of education, while it may be accentuated by half-assimilated instruction. The practical result of such a gap is often seen in the destoolment of Chiefs, and may be caused by either party being over-progressive—a normally advancing people may try to dominate a ring of conservative elders, or a very advanced ruler may try to force his people forward too fast. It also has a great deal to do with such strained situations as that at Elmina, where the two parties now support separate Chiefs, and it is by no means unknown in other West African Colonies.

Sanitation.

The system of disposal of night-soil and refuse established by the special service Royal Army Medical Corps officer at Sekondi is proving satisfactory. For the former he uses a long covered trench, with a darkened opening at one end and a gauze fly-trap at the other. Combustible refuse is burned in ovens, each oven being in the charge of a single helper, who receives a definite supply of refuse daily, and is free to leave when his task is finished. The ashes are used to cover the incombustible material, such as tins, etc., which are used to fill up swampy hollows. His success will probably have much influence in Gold Coast sanitation, but of course there will remain the possible weak link which is the cause of most of the complaints at present, namely, that refuse is either not removed with sufficient frequency, or else that the receptacles are inefficiently purified. However, the system points the way to a much more satisfactory handling of the refuse problem in the near future.

BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

WEST AFRICAN ECHOES.

Inter-Colonial Co-operation.

Although the "Echo" under the above caption was published simultaneously with the report in last week's issue of the Nigerian Club's luncheon to Sir Graeme Thomson, it was written before that function took place, and is an instance of "intelligent anticipation." I am, therefore, pleased to find on reading the report of the speeches that the same note was struck by the new Governor of Nigeria and echoed by Mr. Amery. Sir Graeme Thomson is preparing himself for his new responsibilities by gathering information from all available sources and getting a broad idea of the problems with which he will have to deal in Nigeria. He appealed for co-operation between the British West African Colonies because "we have so many problems in common that understanding between the different West African Colonies is really necessary to attain the maximum of efficiency." Sir Gordon Guggisberg at the Gold Coast is already working in co-operation with Sir Ransford Slater in the survey of the Colony and Protectorate of Sierra Leone, so the policy has been started in practice, and has now received the blessing of the Colonial Office. Mr. Amery, indeed, wishes to extend it to the relations between the Colonial Office and the Colonial Administrations. He said: "Sir Graeme Thomson had spoken of the need for co-operation among the West African Colonies. I am sure it is essential. All over the Empire the various groups of colonies must come together. They should work more intimately and closely in co-operation, and that should be the case also between the Government and the services overseas, and the central authorities and the services in the Colonial Office at home." Mr. Ormsby-Gore's projected visit to West Africa will give a start to closer connection between the Home Government and the local authorities, and may be the beginning of a regular interchange of officials, so that each may know something at first hand of the other's policy and action.

More Co-operation.

The announcement of the appointment of Sir Graeme Thomson to succeed Sir Hugh Clifford in the government of Nigeria has given satisfaction on the Gold Coast, where it was feared that Sir Gordon Guggisberg might be transferred to another sphere before the important lines of development which he has started in transport and education had been so firmly established that they would not be affected by the discontinuity of policy which a change in the Governorship so often entails. It is felt that the proper man to launch the new Constitution, the promulgation of which is expected shortly, is its author, and that it will have the best chance of success under the guidance of a Governor who holds the confidence of the people. In all respects it is felt that it is desirable that he should be retained in his present office. Some of his undertakings have evoked a good deal of criticism, but he has carried on, confident in the opinion that he was thereby serving the best interests of the country and people, and supported by consciousness of the reality of his intention to seek their welfare. His earnestness, his sincerity, and the candour of his speech and conduct have won him through. The "Gold Coast Leader," in an article in its issue of September 21 on "The Immediate Future," bears remarkable testimony to the place which Sir Gordon has gained in the affection and confidence of the people:—

"The vital interests of the country demand that he should remain, and we are glad to know that His Majesty's Government is at one with us in this matter. . . . We cannot help observing that as time has gone on we have learnt to understand and appreciate the Governor better. We can even profess to a real liking for him in the closing years of his first term, and it is not without significance that our people have come to speak of him as 'our Governor.' Of late we have noticed an affecting anxiety on the part of the Governor to co-operate with the people, and the careful observer will note a sincere desire on his part to do what is best for the people, which has called for simultaneous response on the part of the people. Co-operation is the only way out of the difficulties of the Empire, and Great Britain must be grateful to those sons of the Empire who make co-operation between race and race and between people and people possible."

This is a tribute of which Sir Gordon may well be proud as a testimony to his work, for it is in this way that the West African Colonies will be attached to the Empire by ties of friendship stronger and more lasting than any fetters which force could forge or fasten. "We mean to stand by Great Britain so long as she plays the game by us."—"G.C.L." The game will always be fairly played under the captaincy of men like Sir Gordon Guggisberg.

African Music.

No human being can escape the heritage of his race. Though born and reared in a foreign country, without knowledge of his racial home or contact with his race-fellows, he will speak, unconsciously, in the idiom of his race. The late Coleridge-Taylor never set foot in Africa, nor heard Africans sing the songs of their folk; he was trained wholly in European musical ideas, yet it is said that when some of his early compositions were shown to Gounod, that great musician, without knowing who was the composer, said, after reading them: "But these are the work of a negro." The spirit of Africa peeped out through the trappings of European modes. Coleridge-Taylor passed away in the prime of his powers, and when he was contemplating visiting Africa to study its music. His mantle has fallen on Mr. N. J. Ballanta-Taylor, who is now travelling in West Africa studying the aboriginal music. Unlike his famous namesake, Mr. Ballanta-Taylor is purely African, and saturated with the African spirit. His love of music drove him, through a triumphant fight against obstacles, to a course of study at the Royal College of Music (London), and a scholarship at the Institute of Musical Art in New York, whose diploma of Maturity in Composition he holds. Before starting on his European studies Mr. Taylor had already detected a difference between the tonalities of African and European music, and soon after graduating toured the United States stating his theory regarding negro music in America, and how it is affected by its parentage in Africa. The principal points in Mr. Taylor's theory are:—

"(1) With respect to rhythm, African music takes the lead in the present day in rhythmical interest.

"(2) The melodies of the African are not constructed according to the established diatonic major and minor scales, and the piano cannot therefore be expected to produce them."

The piano and other instruments with fixed intervals have taught Europeans to regard the tone and the semi-tone as the only musical intervals, though in speech they use much smaller intervals. The African uses these smaller intervals in his music also. Though it is difficult to persuade a European pianist that B flat is not the same as A sharp (because he is accustomed to play them both on the same key of the piano), the African ear detects and uses the difference in his singing, and so Mr. Taylor claims "that no piano could satisfy the conception of the African so far as tone production is concerned, except it is built in accordance with the theory of harmony." I have no doubt that Mr. Taylor will return from his trip with evidence in support of his theories, which will enable him to demonstrate the racial characteristics of African music to the musicians of the world.

W. F. H.

Native Commissioners

THE functions allocated to Native Commissioners in the bill that is to be introduced in Parliament by the Minister for Native Affairs next session cover a very wide field in the administration of Natives. This method of government is not new in the Transvaal and Natal, but as far as the Cape Province generally is concerned it will be a novelty if adopted by Parliament. At this stage we do not purpose commenting fully on the merits or demerits of the system of governing by Commissioners; but from what we gather from the Prime Minister's remarks made at the opening of the Pretoria conference of Native Chiefs and delegates last Thursday we note that in the selection of delegates to the aforementioned Conference Gen. Hertzog maintains that "it was the desire to reach every portion of the Native population, and to enable the Natives wherever possible to choose their own delegates." The selection of delegates falls principally on the recommendations made by the Native Commissioner of an area to the Government, and we may openly state that as far as the thickly populated native areas of East London, King Williamstown, Keiskama Hoek and Middledrift are concerned—areas consisting of advanced and enlightened Natives,—not a single delegate was chosen therefrom to represent these thousands at the Conference. This is disappointing in the extreme, and infinitely so when it may be recalled that six delegates were chosen by the Ciskei Chiefs' Convention held in July last for recommendation to selection by Government. If this is not flouting the wishes of the Natives, in a matter of paramount importance to their present and future well-being, we do not know by what epithet it may be described. It certainly is a violation of the intentions expressed above by the Prime Minister, and a cruel injustice to the Natives concerned.

If Native Commissioners mean to make an exhibition of their authority in a way that will undermine the spirit of the Native Affairs Act of 1920 it would be strongly advisable to oppose any legis-

Race Problem – 1925
Africa.

GOLD COAST LETTER.

A New Education Ordinance.

A Bill to replace last year's Education Ordinance has been published for information. In the new Bill, which will take effect from January 1st, 1927, the Board of Education is given what is described as an "unofficial majority," that is to say, there are seven Government officials, four representatives of educational and missionary societies, and four Africans, *all* to be nominated by the Governor. The only real difference in the constitution of the Board is thus the inclusion of another African member. The Bill provides for the official registration and rates of minimum salaries of teachers, although not for their regular payment, absence of which is one of the chief disadvantages under which teachers labour, and, by preventing the collection of any fees whatever in schools which do not satisfy its provisions, it effectually limits educational efforts to approved Government lines. WEST AFRICA has previously expressed doubts as to the wisdom of this course, as have several of the local journals, for, in the educational jargon of the day, the purpose appears to be to relate primarily educational efforts to the needs of Achimota, rather than to the needs of ordinary African life, where primary education is all that most of the people can expect to receive.

West Africa
8-3-25

Child Welfare.

In his summary of Government efforts to promote child welfare, delivered at the laying of the foundation stone of the Princess Louise Hospital, Sir F. G. Guggisberg emphasised the fact that no welfare scheme would be a success without voluntary African district visitors to instruct mothers in their own homes. His enumeration of the educational means being adopted in schools and by health weeks, however, omits mention of the organisation of the welfare associations, which he recognises as so necessary, and probably some at least of his hearers felt that a widespread organisation of these societies might effect improvements far more important to the rising generation than more elaborate ones localised to Accra All are necessary, but the question is the order in which they are necessary—whether an elaborate training scheme should precede work by "health missionaries," or whether the "mission" should not make use of the available workers, and, having found their limitations, train others in the light of their previous experience.

The Firewood Supply.

The difficulties experienced by the Gold Coast Agricultural and Forestry Department in starting a firewood plantation at Achimota, cause one to wonder whether, after all, the future fuel supply of the larger towns will not be drawn from the Nigerian coalfields. Already, the price of firewood at Accra is soaring, and when one takes into account the comparative calorific values and rates of combustion of wood and coal, the latter should not prove so prohibitive as it seems at first thought. The fitting-up of a chimney and hearth to a "swish" house is not very difficult—the writer had a serviceable one during a stay near Enugu—and the experiment is well worth a trial. The use of the oil stove is steadily, if slowly, finding favour, and if coal could be placed on the market at a reasonable figure, it seems possible that the people might soon be accustomed to its use. Here is an opportunity for theorists whose thoughts run to large African co-operative wholesale societies, to attempt a traffic, including all the problems of wholesale, creating a market, distribution and retail.

Research Clubs.

A society is in existence at Winnebah for the collection of folk-lore and historical data, and for research into local law and custom. As so often happens in similar European clubs, it has been found difficult to retain the interest of the members, possibly because they see no practical value in such research. A practical side exists, however, if they would devote part of their energies to an examination of African medicine and witchcraft. A cold examination from a detached standpoint of such a case as recently occurred at Tarkwa, for instance, would probably have saved three or four women, suspected of having caused illness to a child, from much persecution, and the absurdity of the tendency (apart from its doubtful "faith" value) reported by a Saltpond resident for even children at school to invoke the aid of charms in their examinations. In African medicine, the use of many herbs or vegetable extracts is worth recording, as is the *principle* underlying the application of sometimes most vile dressings to open wounds, and the study of them would help in the erection of a bridge by which the masses might rise to an understanding of the methods of modern pharmacy and hygiene.

WEST AFRICAN RAILWAY EARNINGS.

Nigerian Railway, traffic receipts, week ending June 27, £37,045, increase £4,809 on corresponding week, 1924. Total, current year, to June 27, £511,972, increase £75,854 over corresponding period, 1924. Amount received in excess of proportionate estimate, £61,123.

Gold Coast Railway, traffic receipts, June, £62,548, increase, £6,843, over June, 1924. Total, current year, to June 30, £200,326, increase, £9,313, over June, 1924. Receipts, £75,924 below proportionate estimate.

Sierra Leone Railway, traffic receipts, June, £19,228, increase, £2,146, over June, 1924. Total, current year, to June 30, £130,891, increase, £14,322, over corresponding period, 1924. Receipts, £24,641 over proportionate estimate.

THE COASTER'S DOG.

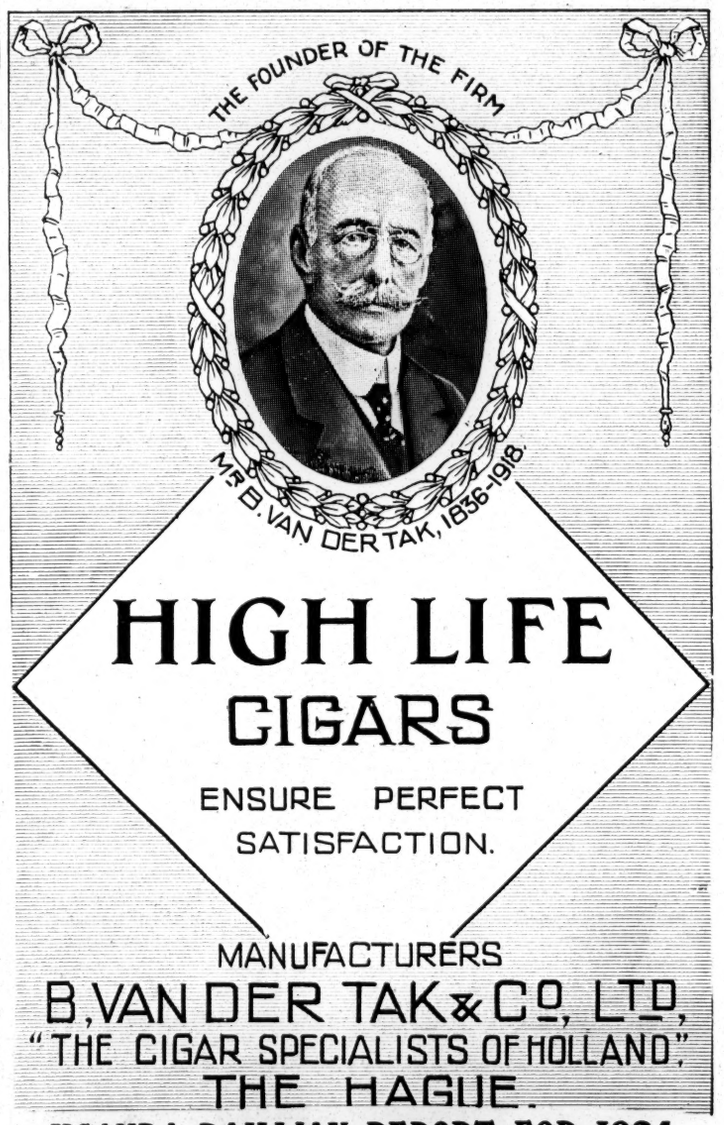
I'm but a little dog, and so
I cannot speak as mortals speak,
But all my master says I seek
To understand, and do, and know;
And I try hard to tell him so.

When he is vexed, I'm full of woe;
My ears hang down; my tail drops low.
I'm such a sad, wee dog.

But when he says, "It's all right, Joe,"
And lets me jump and kiss his cheek,
I don't care if I *cannot* speak,
I'm glad I am *his* dog.

1925. A. M. H.

Permits to kill elephants in the Belgian Congo will in future cost 5,000 francs, and will be limited to two animals, although the provincial Governors will have discretionary powers to increase this limit at 2,500 francs per animal.



UGANDA RAILWAY REPORT FOR 1924.

An Illuminating Document.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of the Report of the General Manager of the Uganda Railway for the year ended December 31, 1924. This most instructive document is obtainable at 5s. from the Uganda Railway Press, Nairobi.

Two illuminating charts at the beginning of the volume show graphically how the revenue was earned and how it was spent. Gross earnings for 1924 are up 82% in the year to £1,635,189, while working expenditure increased only 6·8% to £878,467, the excess of receipts over ordinary working expenditure being more than three quarters of a million sterling and showing no less than 82% advance within the twelve months.

East Africa
7-3-25

A Tribute to Mr. Felling.

These figures are a tribute to the administration of the system under Mr. Felling, whose work is further reflected in the figures showing the percentages of working expenditure to gross receipts over a period of twelve years. Despite the fact that salaries, wages, and other outgoings are much in excess of those before the war, the 1924 results make the best showing. In that year the working expenditure was only 53·7% of the gross receipts, in 1923 it had been 66%, in 1922 87%, during nine months of 1921 94%, in 1920/21 87%, and in 1919/1920 almost 93%. Here, then, is a very remarkable improvement.

The total route mileage of open lines at the end of the year was 940 miles, the total track mileage, including loops and private sidings, being just over 1,000 miles. 206 miles were in process of construction, 73 of them being on the Uasin Gishu Railway, 58 between Thika and the Tana River, 45 on the Kitale branch, and 30 on the Solai branch, while a further 288 miles have been sanctioned.

Goods traffic showed an increase of almost 35% in value, the tonnage advancing 31%. Most useful figures of the quantities of export crops carried to the coast are given, and it is recorded that the total shipping tonnages from Kilindini and Mbaraki during 1922 were 145,934 tons, rising to 205,710 tons in the following year, and 347,706 in 1924. In the year under review there was, therefore, *an increase of* 69% *in twelve months*, a further remarkable commentary on the development of the country's trade.

Traffic Congestion.

Mr. Felling claims that under existing conditions both wharfage companies and the Railway had done as well as could be expected, but he expects recurrent congestion at Kilindini until the deep-water berths are completed. The Administration, he says, has every reason to complain of the manner in which the two landing companies using the Government piers acting in agreement with each other raised landing charges against the Railway during the year.

Dealing with public criticisms on the score of congestion at the Lake ports and in Uganda, the General Manager says that it appears to be almost forgotten that less than two years ago the production and trade of the two territories did not warrant, and in any case, the financial position did not permit of, commitments to large capital, betterment, and renewals expenditure on lines, equipment, rolling stock, and steamers, and he emphasises that the Administration did not hesitate to spend money as soon as a sound financial position was established.

Figures prove that, despite all difficulties, cotton is moving from Uganda much more rapidly than last season, but the General Manager is by no means satisfied that the labour supplies, especially on hard pier work, have been properly handled. He complains that damage to cotton is due to bales being deposited in heaps alongside muddy roads and in ditches, sometimes many inches under water, with no attempt being made at stacking or providing covering, the one idea of consignors in Uganda being to get rid of the cotton.

The Training of Africans.

Very interesting are the paragraphs devoted to the training of Africans. The system of Native apprenticeship in the workshops, initiated in 1923, is meeting with difficulties which require firm handling. The Native pupil, who is at first deeply interested, is reported to develop a disinclination towards regular hours of duty and attendance at classes. The young Native, says Mr. Felling, has no sense of responsibility, and the only way to counteract his tendency to avoid work whenever he feels inclined to do so is to punish him in the same manner as a healthy European schoolboy is punished when he deserves it. Government has therefore been urged to confer on the officer in charge of the Native apprentice hostel the same powers of punishment ordinarily possessed by the headmaster of a school.

There is still a shortage of marine officers, pier masters, works inspectors, locomotive firemen, and other grades, and particularly of engine drivers, and it is surprising to learn that efforts to obtain men from South Africa have not met with much success.

The volume contains full tabular information on every aspect of the work of the system, together with longitudinal sections of the Magadi and Uasin Gishu branches, photographs of constructional and other work, a design of the new Railway offices in Nairobi, and a most useful map of the Colony. It is altogether a most interesting and informative publication, written modestly, but nevertheless showing clearly how great an improvement has been wrought under Mr. Felling's management.

FASTER TRANS-ZAMBEZIA TRAINS.

Mr. H. W. Arnott, the general manager of the associated railways of the Beira-Nyasaland route, has reached his headquarters at Limbe on his return from his recent visit to London.

An acceleration of the up and down mail trains between Beira and Murraça is announced by the management of the Trans-Zambezia Railway. The up train will run faster between Inhaminga, the summit station, and Caia. The train now arrives at the Zambezi terminus (and at Caia) half-an-hour earlier than before, the time of arrival at Murraça being 6.30 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. The down mail has likewise been speeded up between Inhaminga and Dondo and now reaches Beira at 6.25 p.m. instead of 7 p.m.

Find Urn and Bangles in Rhodesian Ruins; Experts Figure They May Be 10,000 Years Old

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 9. [illegible] ancient copper urn, containing five thick copper bangles, supposed taken from the legs of dead chiefs, has been found among the wonderful terraced ruins of Ivanga, in Southern Rhodesia. When exposed to the air the urn crumbled into dust.

The find is said to be of first importance archaeologically. The age of the urn and bangles was found to be from 8,000 to 10,000 years.

The Ivanga district is noted for its ruins, which cover an area of sixty by forty miles. They consist of the remains of stone buildings, aqueducts and terraces. No clue has hitherto been obtained.

South Africa has long been a center for archaeological research and has yielded important discoveries in the last few months. Many scholars are inclined to look upon the region as the cradle of humanity as a result of the recent discovery there of a skull of a native who died a few weeks ago which corresponds entirely to the famous Boskop skull, one of the most primitive known.

The Taungs area is particularly rich in fossils of archaeological and anthropological importance and is now being combed for data by several expeditions.

The Rhodesian skull found at Broken Hill, considerably farther north than Taungs, has been taken by some students to show the migration south of the ancestors of man who from the equatorial regions of Central Africa to the open forests and short grass plains of South Africa.

DETROIT MICH. EVE. NEWS
JULY 25, 1925

Menelik Resented Being Classed as a Negro

MANY Americans think of the Abyssinians as Negroes. We are so accustomed to look upon Africa as the home of the Negro that this assumption is quite natural, says Harry V. Harlan in the National Geographic Magazine. Many years ago the Negroes of America sent a mission to Ethiopia to congratulate Menelik on being the ruler of the only independent Negro country. He refused to receive the mission. The Amharas are a proud people and have looked upon their Negroid tribes as inferior beings.

"Unfortunately, the United States has no resident agent in Ethiopia, and when I requested leave to travel through Amhara by way of Gondar I ran into difficulties. Although the ruler is very favorably disposed toward Americans, and is willing to extend unusual courtesies to them, he first makes very sure of their mission and satisfies himself that they are as they represent themselves."

The Cape Native Voters.

It is agreed on all sides that the most momentous issue raised by General Hertzog in his address at Smithfield is the abolition of the Cape Native franchise. This is a revolutionary proposal, because in the first place it seeks to take away a privilege which, granted in 1854 with the reservation, was amply protected in 1909 in the South Africa Act. This was a legal protection granted with the moral injunction of the Imperial Parliament that the privilege should never be taken away from the Cape Natives, but on the contrary that steps should be taken to persuade the northern Provinces to imitate and emulate the progressive Native policy that had produced contentment for two generations The South African tendency has been one of a steady and gradual whittling down of the rights of Cape Natives in the shape of Pass Laws and heavier taxation, now culminating in the menace of taking away the Native vote. It is an open secret that the real objective of the Nationalist party is to entrench themselves in parliamentary ascendancy for many years by the lever of twenty-eight new votes gained from the Cape Native disfranchisement, and then destroy all vestige of English influence that gave us its historic generosity and impartiality towards all races, and then to induce the South African Party to commit suicide by co-operating in abolishing the Cape Native vote From the proceedings below of the Convention at King Williamstown it is clear that there will be a stern fight to a finish on the part of the natives before they lose their privilege.

Race Problem – 1925
Africa.

GAMBIA AND THE CONGRESS.

BY "CANGER."

IT is gratifying to observe that our brethren in Gambia are now getting in line with Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast on the National Congress of British West Africa which points to the truth that the Congress has come to stay. When the promoters first started their work only five years ago, it was stated that they were but a handful and could not represent the indigneous populations of the countries; and that the scheme was inimical to the best interest of the country. But what do we see now? The leading members of the Congress of each of the four Colonies and Protectorates are nearly to the top of the official ladder of Government, working hand-in-hand with same and promoting and pushing the best interest of the countries which was at first "inimical."

Although the Third Session of the Congress was postponed, yet our Sierra Leone delegates had proceeded to Bathurst, Gambia, and done good work in that Colony, co-operating with the Government and people, gaining good ground and consolidating the cause in such a way that bespeaks of future development on all lines. Can there be any doubt that the Congress has come to stay, and that it means to get the four corners of British West Africa together to form a solid union? We think not, and it behoves all patriotic sons of the soil to rally round the table and support the Movement, for in it lies salvation of our political destiny. Who can say, in the next five years, what the Congress shall have achieved? It is only through push and courage that one ever succeeds. So we must push forward and have the courage, and we shall obtain what is ours—rights and liberties to govern ourselves.

We also learn that a Ladies' Section of the Congress has been formed at Bathurst, Gambia, which is doing its utmost to raise £300. toward purchasing a press for that community. This first step of the ladies of that Colony is very good, and we wish them all success and also that they will be assisted by all friends and well-wishers both at home and abroad. The Press of a country or community is one of its mainsprings of public opinion and sentiment, and we are very pleased to note the keen interest the ladies have taken to help that community, which supports the truth that woman was made to help man. No nation can rise above its women. Hence we should educate and train our women in all national movements to be able to join us hand-in-hand and push the cause. The new era has brought a wide awakening among both sexes, so that women are now becoming lawyers and doctors, and filling many other positions with credit to themselves and to their countries. May we expect the same out here? We answer, yes, if we begin now and make a move in that direction—though far off it may be, yet it will be realised. And there will be great benefits derived from same among our women folk.

Now that the Gambia is getting in line with the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone, we wish to impress our Nigerian brethren to press on and get in line. But in Nigeria it is difficult to get the whole populace to understand the movement, being a large country divided into groups and various sections. However, we would suggest that those who are in the know of the movement, get together and educate the several groups and sections to the necessity of uniting into one solid mass for the uplift of the country and British West Africa in general. Get the idea that we are striving for a United British West Africa and we must all come together in that opinion to achieve this end. We cannot do so when different in opinion and sentiment. Let them get the idea of the United States of America, which was at first only 9 States but grew to 47 and is now a solid United States so that they may fully understand what we mean by United British West Africa. Let the Hon. K. Ata Amonoo begin now and form a section of the Congress at Calabar, and other prominent men at such places as Kano, Zaria, Kaduna, Kinshasa, step forward and spread the Movement throughout those countries. But even Togoland, which is nearer, has not yet come in. "A Native of Anehó," will you try and get Togoland in line? We trust you will. We want to get the whole of British West Africa together in one solid pact to the common cause—UNION.

But we have French, Belgian and Spanish Governments within the Countries and that is one very difficult problem to solve. Will they come in, or shall we exclude them?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

ON the subject of British West African Federation we are pleased to note that our able contemporary, the *Nigerian Spectator*, is of opinion that the time has come for its practical adoption. It says: "Federation" as opposed to amalgamation implies a combination of forces for the mutual performance of a specific purpose while each union remains absolutely independent. We make no apology in suggesting its immediate adoption during the present session of Congress." Our contemporary could not have put the matter more clearly. It is the same doctrine that we have been preaching for some time, and we agree that the sooner it is brought into practical politics the better it is for the true progress of British West Africa.

And the part, among other things, which Nigeria is to take in the work in hand is also expressed. Continuing, the writer says: "The use of this medium is easily resorted to in the absence of a central medium of control: local efforts having proved abortive. Nigeria being a part and parcel of British West Africa, cannot be insensible of the national duty involved. A duty and a responsibility which she does not shirk on the basis of mere sentiments. For it will be detestably mean and cowardly to sit tight and expect to share and share alike the victory won by dint of persevering energy and personal sacrifice to which she has not contributed in the minutest degree. That idea has only to be stated to be dismissed. It is not in consonance with the inborn pride and jealousy of the Nigerian patriot. It is not even practical politics. Deep down in the breast of every Nigerian dwells a vital force impelling action favourable to the Congress movement which brooks no delay, and which cannot suffer further suspense by reason of the fact that the superstructure of the local Branch is weak." All this is very satisfactory, and we trust it will lead to action.

MIXED PICKLES.

BY EBO.

OUR WHITE FRIENDS AND SUBJECT RACES. GENERALLY.

I have just received a copy of His Excellency the Governor's Address to the Legislative Council of the 3rd. February, current. As I desire to review it, and it is expedient to strike while the iron is red, I propose to conclude, for the present, my discussion on the above subject.

I end as I began with the suggestion that, by nature, our white friends are not disposed to deal fairly by any people or peoples whose standard of civilisation they considered inferior to theirs, unless and until, they are compelled so to do. I have followed up this proposition in a series of articles, and flatter myself that I have proved my assertion.

I must now wind up. The art of reading and writing the English language was introduced here by our white friends. But at the moment it is agreed, that there are illustrious sons of Africa who outshine their brethren the Europeans in the art of writing the English language.

Along with Western Education came also the *freedom of the Press*. As I have stated above, this kind of education was introduced here by our white friends. These things being so, one wonders why our white friends appear sometimes to be against the exercise of such freedom. I refer to the legislation which was attempted to be passed in Sierra Leone recently, restricting the freedom of the *Press* in Sierra Leone. I also refer to the General Orders of the West African Governments prohibiting their African servants from writing to the Press. I must also refer to the resentment nursed by Europeans generally against their African employees whom they suspect write to the Press. And generally for the hunt for correspondents to the Press. These things are not fair or just. If it was a bad thing for one to express his or her grievance in the Press, why is it tolerated in Europe the home of our white friends? I know of a friend holding an important position

in a Mercantile House who was discharged from his employment on the ground of suspicion that he was a press correspondent. That was foul play. Except our white friends know of their own knowledge that they are not dealing *fairly* by us, they should not dread the Press with half the dread as they do now.

But I must pass on. There is also to mention *Colour Prejudice*. Time was when appointments into the West African Medical Service was restricted by law to white men only. A resolution was passed about 1912 in Lagos by a conference of Principal Medical Officers (all white men) of the Governments of British West Africa to this effect and even the clerical work of the Sanitary Department was also, by the said resolution, suggested to be done by white men only. Considering that Europeans were more expensive than Africans in the service, and that the Eurepeans put in *less* work for *more* pay than the Africans, I ask the question was the resolution sound or reasonable? But it was passed by some of our white friends who were expected to know better, and but for the intervention of that great philanthropist, Sir Hugh Clifford, then Governor of this country, such a preposterous proposition would have become law. This was born of *Colour Prejudice*, a term which some of our white friends now feign not to understand. I read from the English Press the other day a statement to the effect that it is not the *white man* who is prejudiced against the *black man* but *vice versa*. I was looking for facts to support the suggestion, but there were none. I smiled and said to myself, how easy is it to sit behind an editorial desk 3000 miles away from the scene and scribble anything That is the reason why Judges and Juries have many times demanded to see the places where particular crimes are alleged to have been committed before considering their judgments. We who wear the boots know where they pinch. As to the fallacy that it is the African who is colour-prejudiced against the European, I must only refer to the popular Latin phrase on the point to settle it. Here it is: *'Suspectum semper invisumque dominantibus qui proximus destinaretum". The next in succession is ever hated...by those who are actually in possession of the supreme power.* Of the Africans and Europeans hereabouts, who is in possession of the supreme authority? It is the European and because he sees the African rises, he fears the African will over take him and so he nurses in his heart prejudice against the African for his colour. A case in point is the opening up of appointments usually held by Europeans to deserving Africans in the Public Service. Although some of our Governors have shewn keen desire to supplant, on the grounds of economy, some of the Europeans when they retire on pension with deserving Africans Heads of Departments, who are all Europeans, for colour prejudice, have in some cases refused to recommend suitable Africans under them for such appointments and so keep the appointments always open to their brother Europeans.

Our white friends as a rule will always refuse to deal *fairly, justly*, and *rightly*, by any people or peoples whose standard of civilisation they consider inferior to theirs, unless and until they are compelled so to do.

Portugal and African "Slaves"

There has been placed before the League of Nations a report, based on close investigation, of the most deplorable conditions of the Africans under the government of Portugal. This condition, while not directly and frankly called "slavery," is described in such terms as admit of no doubt that actual serfdom and slavery are practiced by the Portuguese.

It is shown that the natives are forced to labor for the conquerors, at stipulated wages and other provisions; but it happens frequently that they never receive pay or other compensation, which is intercepted by grafters, or withheld by petty officials—perhaps, in cases, by some higher up. The situation is one, manifestly, of practical slavery.

It recalls in a sinister way the horrors practiced or tolerated by Belgium in the days of Leopold the Damned, when the natives were subjected to the most terrible cruelty and torture to make them labor for their masters in the rubber harvest.

It recalls, also, the usual course followed by alien masters everywhere in the less civilized and weaker countries. We see some of this sort of thing practiced by the British especially, in the concessions in China and in the subjugated countries of the Far East, in the Tropics and elsewhere. All this sort of treatment that fires the long dormant soul of China and is lighting the conflagrations of another war.

It is tragically pitiful that the thing cannot be seen and understood and stopped by the statesmen of London and of Paris and of Washington and of Rome and of Lisbon and of The Hague. It must be stopped, unless the world already accepts the alternative of a more terrible war than the one that has recently devastated its most prosperous and civilized regions

There can be made no excuse that we have not been warned. Warnings come to us by every wind from the East and South. The rioting at Shanghai is one of the most alarming of these warnings we are receiving. The bullying of Egypt and the reactions to that brutality, both in Egypt and in London and at Geneva, constitute another warning that is as plain to us as the writing on Belshazzar's festival hall was fiery clear to the Hebrew captive.

While in the most recent instance the warning comes to the miniature despotism of Europe, Portugal, a feudal anachronism it seems, in every case, to point to Great Britain, as the greatest malefactor. One may readily see Gray's warning in "The Bard":

"Weave the warp, and weave the woof,
The winding sheet of Edward's race;
Give ample room and verge enough
The characters of hell to trace!"

But England does not see the warning. And, probably she will not se it, with her shielded eyes, until flaming simitars are flashing across her trails of empire.—Columbia State.

WHITE SETTLEMENT IN TANGANYIKA.

New Area Available.

NAIROBI, July 23.

Considerable interest is displayed in the Southern Highland region of Tanganyika, which the Government, it is understood, is preparing to annate. A Nairobi firm has opened a land agency at Iringa and Lord Delamere and others are now visiting the district. I understand that the Tanganyika Government is surveying the area between Iringa and Tukuyu, while the land west of Iringa is also likely to be alienated to white settlers.

Conditions for the acquisition of land are very favourable. The right of occupancy of a 400-acre farm near Tukuyu is at present offered to the person bidding the highest annual rent at public auction. The Government upset price is 6d. an acre annual rent. A 99 years' lease is given to the successful bidder, who is bound to cultivate one-twentieth of the area acquired yearly until one half of the whole is cultivated, while the value of buildings and machinery will be accepted in lieu of a portion of cultivation.

The most important clause in the lease is that which declares that the right of occupancy is not transferable, except with the consent of Government. The Tanganyika Government is apparently endeavouring to prevent land speculation. The substitution of "right of occupancy" for sale outright is particularly noteworthy.—"Times."

Great Britain Seeking To Get More Raw Cotton from Nigeria

From the New York Sun

Great Britain is about to develop its West Africa colonies, which are far behind those to their east and south in production and means of transportation. A railway is soon to be constructed in Nigeria, from Gusan to Zaria, nearly 300 miles from the coast. The line will be 120 miles long and will serve a large cotton growing region that has hitherto sent its product to the coast by camels and donkeys. Despite this primitive system of communication it exported last year 21,000 bales and the new route is expected to triple this amount. The work has been approved by the Colonial Office, which is sending William Ormsby-Gore to the spot on a visit of inspection.

A new Governor, Sir Graeme Thomson, is also about to sail for his post. He was entertained at a farewell luncheon by the Nigeria Dinner Club, at which Sir Frederick Lugard, the explorer and former Governor of the colony, presided. Sir Graeme Thomson's appointment is considered as evidence of the Government's intention to foster the greatest possible cooperation among all the West African colonies in future. In his speech the new Governor said they had so many problems in common that a constant interchange of views was necessary. He suggested the naming of a standing transport committee at the Colonial Office to consider new developments.

Nigeria is said to offer one of the most promising fields in the British Empire for the growth of cotton. Besides cotton Nigeria exports palm oil, rubber, ivory, hides, ostrich feathers coffee, cocoa and kola nuts. Development of the export trade depends on the extension of cheap transportation, now largely carried by the Baro-Kano Railway, which has its base on the navigable Niger River and to which the proposed line will act as a feeder. Three "roadless tractors" are to be sent from England, to supplement the railway, adding greatly to the facilities of transportation.

THE AFRICAN NEGRO.

OFFENSIVE EPITHETS DEPRECATED.

FROM THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

Sir,—It is with pain and regret that I read in so many publications the words "buck nigger." The word "nigger" is offensive enough, but the use of the adjective makes it doubly so. I feel sure that the use of the expression is due solely to thoughtlessness, and with no idea of insulting the coloured races. Britishers are the last people in the world knowingly to hurt the feelings of other people, and I feel that it needs only a reminder for the objectionable expression to disappear from our vocabulary. Many coloured people are at present our guests at the British Empire Exhibition, notably in the West African section. All of us wish that they should return to their countries, thousands of miles away, with none but happy memories of the motherland of the British Empire. The great silent people of British West Africa furnished soldiers, carriers, money, and produce, without which the Great War could not have been won. The Great War was none of their making and few of the people knew the causes which led up to the greatest catastrophe which has ever visited mankind, because the majority of them are illiterate. They trusted us, and under our wise and sympathetic guidance they helped the Allies to victory. In the same way they are helping us to peace, plenty, and prosperity difficult though the road may be.

Let me recount a little episode which must touch the heart of every one of your readers. I was sitting in my office one morning during the Great War when a man came in.

who do fight for we; I no do get much coppah, but I bring watin (what) I able for gi (give) make you send om (it) for me to dem sick and wounded men for me," and he gave me a shilling, his subscription to the Red Cross Fund. Was Seabreeze a "buck nigger"? There are millions like old Seabreeze, stalwart,

Race Problem – 1925.

Africa.

IN DARKEST AFRICA.

The picture given by Professor EDWARD ROSS in his report to the League of Nations on the employment of native labor in Portuguese Africa is gruesome. His findings have been summarized in the ugly word "slavery." Legally speaking, this is inaccurate. The Portuguese Government has indignantly denied that slavery has existed in its African possessions since the abolition of the monarchy. In place of it, however, is what has euphemistically been called "forced labor" for terms varying from a few months to a year or more. According to Professor Ross, men and women are regularly seized and obliged to work for the Government or for planters. Nominally they are paid. Actually most of them receive nothing, not even enough food, and are prevented from cultivating their own lands or using what few facilities they may possess to earn sufficient money to pay the taxes and buy the few necessaries of life. If this be not slavery, it is at least a form of peonage that is as bad or worse.

Professor Ross's report is full of specific incidents of oppression. His method of procedure was to ignore the Portuguese officials and go direct into the hinterland, there, with interpreters, to question laborers on the roads and plantations and get their stories. Conditions were by no means uniformly bad; but he found enough cases of slavery in fact, if not in form, to lead him to charge that the system generally employed gave the natives no time to look after their own affairs, that most of the pay which was supposed to be paid them for their forced labor never reached them, that the natives had no method of airing their grievances and were oppressed even by the native police, and that conditions in general were so bad in Portuguese colonies that the natives were emigrating to Rhodesia and the Belgian Congo.

This report was not drawn up at the instigation of the League, but has been submitted to the League's Committee on Slavery. Owing to the machinery of procedure, this document could not be accepted and considered by the committee unless and until it was vouched for by our Government. The League's inquiry at Washington about the standing of Professor Ross did not reach there in time to receive an answer early enough to permit the document to be immediately considered. It has since been accepted, however, and will now be transmitted to the Portuguese Government, and after that body has taken note of it it will be discussed by the League body. This will take time, and as a result no action upon it can be expected for another year.

Despite the necessary delay, the League has done valuable work in focusing the light of public opinion upon conditions such as these. If the labor situation is as bad in Portuguese Africa as has been represented, there is little doubt that it will be rectified long before the League takes formal action, if for no other reason than that Portugal would never be willing to have the case proved against her by League officials. The indictment before the world would be too severe. Much better give the nations no chance to uphold the charges. The spotlight of publicity must have its effect even in darkest Africa.

New York Times 8-16-25

EAST AFRICA RAILWAYS.

Work in Progress and Contemplated.

In the House of Commons recently Colonel Day asked the Secretary for the Colonies what steps were contemplated towards the opening up and development of the hinterland of East Africa by the construction and institution of railway connections.

Mr. Amery, in a written reply, said: The following particulars show the work in progress, at present contemplated or proposed.

(1) Work now in progress:—

(a) Kenya-Uganda—Extension of Uasin Gishu line through Tororo to Kbulamuti, say, 185 miles.

(b) Kenya—Kitals branch, 43 miles; Selai branch, 30 miles: Tana River-Nyeri extension, 32 miles.

(c) Tanganyika Territory—Tabora-Shinyanga branch, 120 miles.

(2) Future work contemplated:—

(a) Uganda—Tororo to Teso District, say, 75 miles.

(b) Kenya—North Kavirondo branch, say 35 miles.

(The above two lines await the completion of 1 (a).)

(c) Tanganyika—Shinyanga to Mwansa probably about 140 miles.

(3) Proposals for additional lines are contained in the East African Commission Report. They include:—

(a) Uganda—Further extension of 2 (c) to North-West Units of the Protectorate (say, 200 miles).

(b) Kenya—Subject to very careful survey, a branch Gilgil to Thompson Falls (say 50 miles), and a branch from Mau Summit to Kericho (say, 4 miles).

(c) Tanganyika—Moshi-Arusha, with further extension to Dodoma on the Central Railway (280 miles). Ngerengere on the Central Railway to Manda on Lake Eyasa (about 400 miles).

(d) Nyasaland—Extension to connect the existing railway system with Lake Nyasa.

The Commission's proposals are, however, dependent on financial provision, for which they suggest a loan guaranteed by Act of Parliament.

The African World 7/25/25 London Wall London E.C.

WHAT WE THINK.

KATANGA'S RECORD WEALTH.

Though we have for the past twenty-three years regularly maintained a special news service in connection with the remarkable mineral wealth of the South-Western Congo Belge, with special reference to the copper, auriferous and other valuable base metals located on what is known as the Great Divide, the latest contemporary developments in this region are simply astounding, and it is not surprising to find that the eyes of the world are now concentrated on what may be called the true Pandora's box of Central Africa. Anyone carefully perusing the report of the meeting of the Union Miniere du Haut Katanga, held at Bussels last Monday, must arrive at the conclusion that the triumph of the work of two decades by distinguished Anglo-Belgian engineers and financiers spells romance of successful achievement, almost unequalled in the annals of commercial history, and that even in Africa, where record accomplishments have not been the exception during the past fifty years. Where clever Belgian geologists first located this immense tract of rich cuperferous ground, where George Grey (brother of Earl Grey of Falloden) of never-to-be-forgotten records, and Robert Williams, carrying on the Rhodes mission northwards with bulldog pertinacity, toiled in the early years of the century, there are to-day, thanks largely to the iron road being in action on the Cape to Cairo trail, vast mines in working, employing thousands of people, with huge installations of machinery, not only for mining, but equipped with the most modern chemical processes—one of the miracle scenes of Africa, nay, of the Globe. That little Belgium, our staunch and gallant ally, should have been spared after Armageddon, and blessed by a Divine Providence, to be in the position, through her great Equatorial Colony, to rehabilitate herself so splendidly is another splendid demonstration of the old saying, "L'homme propose, Dieu dispose," and needs no further comment. In the Katanga to-day, in the great valleys of the Congo and the Kasai, where stupendous wealth, both agricultural and mineral, is only awaiting further development by capital and work, where unlimited opportunities are still offering for the participation and economic enterprises of the whole world, lies the future of Central Africa. The adjoining British, French, and Portuguese coastal colonies will all benefit from these wonderful activities when these areas are linked to the sea. No wonder, then, that all the world says to-day: "Hats off to such great leaders as Robert Williams, Jean Jadot, Francqui, and other brilliant men of exceptional genius, administrative capacity, and outstanding merit!"

ANOTHER "AFRICAN WORLD"?

We gather from private letters recently received from "Negro World" and i... friends at Cape Town, as well as the "Rand Sunday ... which has quite illegally ... Times," that a new paper, printed in English and Bantu, ... ing, in their best inter... has recently made its appearance at Cape Town under the ... ence in native affairs s... name of the "African World." Apart from the permi... London to-day a visite... cious political tendency of the publication, which incident... next to the Shepstone f... ally refers to the irresistible messages of His Highness ... influential authority on... Marcus Garvey, Potentate of the Universal Negro Im... African natives, who ... provement Association (who, unhappily for himself, if not ... recent efforts to introd... to the advantage of the world in general, is at present ... methods amongst the ... serving a five years' sentence of penal servitude at Atlanta ... failed, and are likely to ... Gaol, U.S.A., after which he is to be deported), we ... great attention paid t... strongly object to our journal's name having been copied ... workers by their emplo... Certain steps are now being taken to rectify this particular ... deal with its own prob... personal grievance, but the matter of permitting a paper ... Marcus Garveys are no... with such dangerous tendencies to exist will surely be ... else to teach us our o... taken up promptly by the department responsible for these ... Republic of the West C... affairs in the Union Government, if only for the protection ... session when Garvey deleg... of the public in general. In the "Negro World" of ... promptly deporting ... July 11, which is the official organ in the United States ... orders of its enlightened ... of the Garvey organisation, we notice an editorial gloating ... to hear similar good ne... over the birth of the new "African World" at the Cape, ... such machinations as su... nal will probably not be ... permitted to exist much longer.

Race Problem — 1925.

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ANOTHER "AFRICAN WORLD"?

We gather from private letters recently received from friends at Cape Town, as well as the "Rand Sunday Times," that a new paper, printed in English and Bantu, has recently made its appearance at Cape Town under the name of the "African World." Apart from the pernicious political tendency of the publication, which incidentally refers to the irresistible messages of His Highness Marcus Garvey, Potentate of the Universal Negro Improvement Association (who, unhappily for himself, if not to the advantage of the world in general, is at present serving a five years' sentence of penal servitude at Atlanta Gaol, U.S.A., after which he is to be deported), we strongly object to our journal's name having been copied. Certain steps are now being taken to rectify this particular personal grievance, but the matter of permitting a paper with such dangerous tendencies to exist will surely be taken up promptly by the department responsible for these affairs in the Union Government, if only for the protection of the public in general. In the "Negro World" of July 11, which is the official organ in the United States of the Garvey organisation, we notice an editorial gloating over the birth of the new "African World" at the Cape, under the heading "We Two." We would tender both the "Negro World" and its latest offspring in South Africa, which has quite illegally assumed our name, a grave warning, in their best interests, to abstain from any interference in native affairs south of the Equator. We have in London to-day a visitor, Mr. H. M. Taberer, perhaps next to the Shepstone family the greatest living and most influential authority on everything connected with South African natives, who only informed us this week that recent efforts to introduce Communistic and Bolshevistic methods amongst the natives in the Union have so far failed, and are likely to fail in the future, in view of the great attention paid to the best interests of the black workers by their employers. South Africa knows how to deal with its own problems better than anyone else, and Marcus Garveys are not needed either there or anywhere else to teach us our own business. Liberia, the Negro Republic of the West Coast, arrived at the same conclusion when Garvey delegates arrived at Monrovia last year by promptly deporting them on the immediate drastic orders of its enlightened ruler, President King. We hope to hear similar good news ere long from the Cape, where such machinations as suggested by the latest native journal will probably not be permitted to exist much longer.

A BRITISH TRIUMPH.

Although this country may have for the time being lost some of its former supremacy in the field of sport, in the things that matter there is no reason for regret. It is only two years ago that the discoveries of that eminent Canadian scientist Dr. Banting, in Insulin treatment, opened the door for the conquest of diabetes, and now a pathway has been hewn in the hitherto unconquered circle of certain malignant diseases by the tracking down of the germ which is the root of the cause of cancer. Dr. Gye and Mr. Barnard have not only succeeded in this great task, which has up to now baffled the researches of the laboratories of the world, but have reconciled what previously appeared to be two conflicting schools of thought. There were those who contended that the disease was caused by a bacillus, and those who held that it was the consequence of tissue cells for some unknown reason becoming uncontrolled. It has now been shown that the disease is due to a germ, which, however, can only become dangerous when brought into contact with a tissue rendered favourable by some means for its cultivation. The discovery of Dr. Gye and Mr. Barnard is believed to have considerable importance relative to the causes of sleeping sickness, smallpox, and other similar diseases, and may in time render possible successful inoculation against them. While every credit is rightly given to the scientists whose untiring persistence has been crowned with success, it should not be forgotten that some at least of that success has been brought about by reason of the funds contributed for Cancer Research, and to which no one has given more lavishly and generously than the partners of that great South African firm in Austin Friars known to the world as Messrs. Barnato Brothers.

KENYA AND UGANDA.

OUR UGANDA LETTER.

NATIVE PROSPERITY—MORE EXPENSIVE TASTES—HIGH COST OF LIVING—FOOD "RINGS."

("African World" Correspondent.)

KAMPALA, June 20.

The natives have plenty of money, and when they have the usual desire is to spend it. Their tastes, as year follows year, are getting more and more expensive, and where a few years ago the ordinary native was content if he invested in a gaudy pair of boots, now he goes in mainly for the best of everything. At the present time it is not unusual to see natives driving about, dressed in the very best, in first-class motor-cars, a motor-cycle being now rather a back-number with some of them. The female element are going in for motor-cycles, whilst any number of them can be seen daily on ordinary push-bikes.

The success of trade has been marred greatly by delayed delivery of material through the congestion on the Uganda Railway.

A Promising Outlook.

The rainy weather is well on. In fact, for a few days before the arrival of the Governor Entebbe had its share of rain, and it was merely through good luck that a dry day graced the arrival proceedings. In many places natives are taking early advantage of the rains to get their ground ready for next season's cotton sowing, though it is not usual this side of the water to commence sowing till the end of June and during July. It is not an unsual sight to see natives putting in big plots of onions and such like where the cotton has been growing for the past season, and in this way have not only another source of profit, but they are keeping the ground clean for the main crop. Everywhere the prospect pleases, and everything in the ground is fresh and green.

Cost of Living.

The cost of living in Uganda is going up at a tremendous pace. Whilst we can hear that prices of most commodities are going down at home, the reverse is the law here. One wonders why, for in the matter of local produce there is no handicap to be seen which could warrant such a tend. Where, heretofore, vegetables could be had in abundance and at moderate rates, now they are as scarce as gold, and almost as costly. Meat is over treble what it used to be a short while ago, and eggs and fowls, which were a drug on the market a couple of years back, are now obtainable only at prohibitive prices. Whilst the cost of living is undoubtedly far and away more than it used to be, it cannot be said that salaries are getting higher in ratio. A few years ago an ordinary European employee was receiving an average salary of about £30 a month, and in many cases that to start with. Nowadays that is all changed, and he is indeed a fortunate individual who can command a salary of anything like £30 a month. Many consider themselves lucky who receive £20.

A Native Food Ring.

In those days you could get a good-sized fish for about 3d. The natives have now formed a ring, and the present price for the same-sized fish is 7d. You can take it or leave it. In fact, the Government officials of Entebbe (these are the only people who live in that cul-de-sac) resolved that they would not buy fish till they were at normal price again. Alas, for another of "the best-laid schemes of mice and men," the natives said "All right," but the non-native got tired first, and so the price remains at 7d. Fivepence each are asked for hen eggs, which could be better distinguished if we designated them sparrows' eggs. It is to be presumed that there as as many million fish in the Victoria Nyanza as ever there were. And we have yet to learn that there has been any epidemic which has made fowl scarce. In war time such things were controlled here. That proves, in any case, that the thing is controllable. Prices could be specified which would be fair to both consumer and seller. But nobody here has as yet seen fit to ask the Government to exercise some sort of discretionary power in the matter. Not, mind you, that there is no grumbling about it. Grumbling and growling there is from morn till night. The ordinary housewife is at her wits' end to know what to do next.

Labour the Ruling Factor.

Greater economy has to be practised by everybody but the natives. His tastes, as I have already remarked, are getting more expensive, which is a good thing in the main for trade generally. But that does not say that we are to suffer profiteering by the native in the matter of local produce. Time was when the non-native could produce and sell vegetables himself on his own land. Time was when it paid to keep fowl and sell good-sized eggs and a decent-sized fowl. But even that is impossible now for again the native obtrudes himself and denies you his labour, even at a price.

Add to this the latest innovation and you have a very pretty picture of Uganda as she is to-day. And the latest innovation is a Buganda "Club," which has its being, of all places in the Protectorate, at Entebbe the seat of Administration. It is reported that this club is legalised for the sale of native liquor or beer. Anyhow, natives congregate there in their hundreds or thousands, and beer is sold to them in broad daylight. There is no hiding of the fact. A resident of Entebbe tells me that the licensee has a turnover of over £100 a month.

Is it any wonder, then, that we can't get labour? The ordinary labourer and the ordinary mechanic (save the mark!) will work only when he thinks he will. Never a reliable individual at the best of times, what will he be when he knows that he can go and have a booze up openly when he feels so inclined? He is realising that he is something in the eyes of the Government. He imagines, nay, he boasts, that he cannot be done without. Only last month at the new Post Office being built in Kampala did he give an object lesson of what he could do. Out of a score of masons (again save the mark!) employed to lay bricks at this building in the early part of the month some half-dozen were left at the end of the month. The others had run away. Work was at a standstill till it was a matter for common observation.

NATIVE PREACHERS.

[TO THE EDITOR, IMVO.]

Sir.—In challenging my letter which appeared in the columns of the IMVO on the 27th October Mr. E M J. Phago of Oogies, Transvaal, says I wrote that letter for the mere sake of criticism and for the purpose of enjoying publicity without material bearing on the subject I undertake to criticise and gives no reasons for saying so. I wonder if he knows that when you criticise a person you must give full substantial reasons for your criticism which will illuminate the mistake to which he has been blind. Again his challenge shows that he was more ready to criticise than to have a clear understanding of my letter. He says I have said "my aim in writing this article is to help those preachers who are not sufficiently educated to read English and therefore he wonders if that particular kind of preachers will read my letter and see their mistake. If he was more ready to understand my letter than to criticise it he would have clearly seen that that letter was not written for that kind of preachers to read and see their mistake but for ministers and superintendents of native circuits to read. So, whether that class of preachers read the letter or not it is all immaterial. Again he says, "It is easier to point out the malady than to suggest the remedy." If he was more ready to understand my letter than to criticise it, he would have seen that in this case of mine I have not only pointed out the malady but have suggested the remedy as well, in that I have said, "If many religious books were translated into native languages to enable those preachers who are not sufficiently educated to read English to read good sermons" written in their own languages their preaching would improve very immensely." Is that not a suggestion? Again he says, "It is easier to find fault than to initiate things" I do not think he is aware of the fact that an adage can be harmful as well as useful according to the way in which it is used, just as an axe can be harmful as well as useful according to the way in which it is used. If you use an axe for chopping people, it is harmful but if you use it for chopping wood for making fire it is useful. I am afraid he is using this adage for chopping people instead of wood. It does not follow that because it is easier to find fault than to initiate things we have to hold our peace even when we see that things are going wrong. I may be in lack of intuative but it is part and parcel of my work that I should point out a malady to people whom I know are quite capable of getting a remedy for its cure.

Yours, etc.,
W. N. DUBA.
Germiston.

Race Problem — 1925

Africa

SOME AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

THE THREE IMPORTANT FACTORS—POPULATION, TRANSPORTATION AND SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE.

Under the auspices of the Dominions and Colonies Section of the Royal Society of Arts, Adelphi, the Hon. W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, read a paper recently on "Some African Problems." Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance.

West Africa

The Chairman, introducing the lecturer, said that anyone in charge of the Colonial Office, as he was for a time, could not only be struck with the problems but with the wonderful possibilities of Africa. Great Britain was essentially a trustee in Africa, but no narrow interpretation must be placed upon the word trustee. If it meant anything it meant that we must always be prepared to do the right thing for those millions of people in that vast country, but equally it meant that we must be prepared to encourage and help and to protect those settlers who played the part of pioneers and above all we must give all the help and encouragement we possibly could to those on the spot who were responsible for the administration of the country.

7-18-25

Mr. Ormsby-Gore then read his paper, and in the course of it he said :—

"Everything that I have learnt, both during my recent tour through the British territories in East Africa and by my study of African problems on both sides of the Continent, leads me to the conclusion that our first great problem in Africa is population and the second is transportation. These are the two first and most vital problems, but to them I would add one more, namely, scientific agriculture.

"As far as British territories are concerned, such statistics as there are would seem to show that the population is definitely increasing in the Gold Coast, Nigeria and in the Sudan; for the rest the best that can be said is that there is no conclusive evidence that it is actually decreasing. Fairly reliable census returns are available in the case of the Gold Coast; in 1901 the total population was found to be 1,549,000; in 1911 the figure for the same area was 1,503,000, showing a small decline; and in 1921, 2,110,000, a fairly substantial increase, but how far this increase was due to immigration and how far to natural increase is not clear. The Nigerian census for 1911 gives a total of 17,133,000 and the 1921 census 18,070,000.

African Tropical Life.

"The outstanding feature of African tropical life is the enormously high rate of infantile mortality, particularly during the first twelve months of life. This probably accounts in a greater degree for the smallness of the population than the incidence of endemic and epidemic diseases later in life, though these are still taking gigantic toll. There are, of course, the somewhat spectacular epidemic diseases of which sleeping sickness is the most serious and the most widespread, and which, during the great outbreak in Uganda, wiped out one-tenth of the total population in one year. But there are other diseases which are of quite as great importance, not merely in the high rate of mortality for which they are accountable, but still more on account of the enfeebling condition which deteriorates the efficiency of the individual and undermines his or her vitality and resistance. I refer, of course, to malaria and other mosquito-borne fevers, plague, leprosy, dysentery, spirillum fever, relapsing fever and smallpox. In the main, it would seem that the fight for human life in Africa is in no small degree a fight of man against insects, a fight against the tsetse fly and the tick, the mosquito, the flea, and the louse. Both the tsetse fly and the tick play an equally important part in the veterinary sphere and the various diseases of cattle and other domestic diseases are closely allied, and in the case of the tsetse fly absolutely bound up, with the human aspect of the problem.

"From this thesis you will rightly draw the conclusion that the work of the medical and sanitary services is of supreme importance in tropical Africa.

"The proportion of local tax revenue devoted by the various territories in British East and West Africa to medical and sanitary services is increasing, but at best it is still small compared to the magnitude of the task. The amounts are: Gold Coast, 16.3 per cent.; Nigeria, 21.9 per cent.; Sierra Leone, 16.7 per cent.; Uganda, 20.8 per cent.; Tanganyika Territory, 17.23 per cent.; and Kenya, 12.3 per cent.

Native Production or Plantation System.

"Population is the first limiting factor in African development, whether that development be by means of Native production or plantation system. Apart from production it plays just as great a part in the problem of distribution. It is no use organising the production of increased wealth unless there is labour available to move the produce. The rapid expansion of Native agricultural production in both Uganda and the Gold Coast has already given rise to serious labour problems.

"The Native cocoa producers in the Gold Coast Colony are still fortunate in being able to get the services of labour from the neighbouring French territories and from the northern territories of the Gold Coast, which are as yet too far from developed transport to be able to produce for export themselves. Similarly the plantations of Kenya and Tanganyika are already short of labour for the adequate development of the estates. Therefore, whichever means of economic development are adopted in tropical Africa, it is perfectly clear that we shall be blocked, not for want of land or want of capital, but primarily for want of human agencies in all their diversity required in connection with any economic activity.

"If we are to build up in East and West Africa anything in the nature of a peasant proprietary, larger families are an economic necessity, for it is only where there are sufficient members of a family, not only to cultivate the land and harvest the crop, particularly such a crop as cotton, but also to provide labour for all the other social services which are necessary to get that crop on to the sea, that there can be any permanent stability in expansion. The first concern, therefore, in which governments, planters, traders and Native producers alike, are all equally interested, is to secure an increase in the Native population.

"One of the outstanding examples of the waste of human labour in the world to-day is the widespread use of "carriers" in tropical Africa. In the aggregate, many thousands of tons of produce every year are still being carried, often for great distances, by human porterage. The absence of roads restricts the areas where wheeled transport of any kind is possible, and over very large areas of Africa where roads or tracks do exist animal transport is ruled out by the prevalence of the fatal tsetse fly. Road making and road maintenance present special difficulties in tropical Africa. A great part of the area is covered by a thick coating of soil, the result of the growth and decay of centuries of forest and other vegetation in a land of high temperature and high rainfall.

"In spite of these special difficulties, the construction of roads has already played an important part in the economic development of certain areas of tropical Africa. It is not too much to say that the remarkable growth of the cocoa industry in the Gold Coast and the cotton industry in Uganda is due to the development of road transport. In West Africa the Gold Coast leads and has now 3,650 miles of good roads open for motor transport. Nigeria, which is one-third the size of British India, has at present only 2,500 miles of motor road. I am driven to the conclusion that the further development of tropical Africa is essentially bound up with the extension of the railway systems. The railways can be used at all times of the year, wet or dry, and in spite of the high cost of the initial capital expenditure the railway in Africa is the most potent mechanical agency in the spread of civilisation and economic improvement. By the end of this year there will be open for traffic in the three West Africa territories of Nigeria, Gold Coast and Sierra Leone, approximately 2,360 miles of railway.

"In West Africa there is a populous north-western area of the Northern Provinces of Nigeria which forms the most suitable area for cotton growing. But this rich and populous area is at present out of the reach of both railway and river transport, and only by the construction of a railway, or possibly two railways, can its potential riches be brought into being.

"Except in those exceptional cases where expensive bridging or heavy grading is required, the cost of construction and equipment of new railways in tropical Africa should not now exceed £10,000 per mile. Of this approximately half represents orders for rails, bridging work, cement and equipment unobtainable in Africa requiring manufacture in this country. In view of the depressed state of these particular industries in Great Britain, I feel that this is the time when every effort should be made consistent with Native interests to expedite further railway construction in Africa, for such expenditure as is involved is really remunerative and the indirect benefits to trade and commerce are quite as important, if not more important, than the actual relief which these railway orders would afford us at this time.

"The principal difficulty is initial finance. The bulk of the taxation in tropical Africa falls upon the Native and it is impossible to call upon him to pay higher taxes until he is in a position to pay them by producing commodities which he can market, and it is hard to throw upon him the high cost of loan charges during the period of railway construction, before the railway can operate to his advantage. It is the bridging of this comparatively brief gap that is the crux of the financial problem that faces each Colonial Government anxious to develop."

Sir F. Lugard's Endorsement.

A discussion followed, in the course of which Sir F. Lugard remarked that he thought the lecturer had rightly summed up the whole of African problems in the two words transportation and population. He was convinced that arterial railways in Africa were among the greatest essentials, but there was some controversy as to what should be the best class of feeder to the railway. He agreed with Mr. Ormsby-Gore that research was necessary to try and elucidate the reason why the populations in British possessions in Africa were either stationary or decreasing. He suggested that they might get a move on if the Colonial Office were to invite the Governors in the different territories to consider the question immediately with their experts and that the reports which they would submit would form very useful preliminary data for a larger system of research which would follow later on.

They had often heard it said that the development of Africa was the problem of the 20th century. It had been temporarily delayed by the War, but now under the present Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Amery, and the Under-Secretary, they looked like getting a move on.

A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Ormsby-Gore for his address and to the Chairman for presiding, on the motion of Sir Charles McLeod, seconded by Col. Sir Charles Yate

THE GOLD COAST "AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL."

Gold Coasters who appreciate mangoes really fit to be classed as fruit will be glad to see, from the "Journal" of the Gold Coast Agricultural Society, that attempts are being made to imitate Nigeria in the introduction of a better species from the West Indies. The fact that the "cultivated" mango does not grow true from seed, however, makes its dispersion through the Colony a task for the Agricultural Department, as grafting will be necessary. The "Journal" contains an account of a meeting between the Governor and prominent Africans on the subject of an agricultural bank, a scheme being suggested which is to divide the risk equally over farmers, other shareholders, and the Government. A sub-committee of the Agricultural Society has been appointed to examine the plan, so that a fairly authoritative local opinion on this interesting subject may be expected soon. The notes on the future of sisal, by Mr. J. M. Wingate, are of considerable interest, although they fail to give full accounts with regard to the Government production of fibre. The figures given, which indicate a profit of £14 per acre for 2½ months' work by the African farmer, need the confirmation of experience, for so much depends on the price the Government is able to offer for the leaves. The possibility of growing sisal in the food-farmers' "off season," however, is one that ought to appeal to those in the neighbourhood of Accra, at any rate. Among the new products suggested by the "Journal" are limes, sugar, and bananas, the first being specially suitable for the "no-man's-land" between the edge of the forest and the sea, but the fact that the Palm Oil Managers' Estates, Ltd., who have an oil factory in the West, but cannot obtain palm-fruit owing to lack of collectors, seems to show that agricultural industries requiring more than a modicum of labour will have little chance of success in the near future. A loose sheet in the "Journal" contains a rain chart for Accra, giving a conservative estimate, based on 20 years' observation, of the average rainfall per month, and of the average number of rainy days. This is intended for the tree-planter, and should prove most useful in showing him when he may plant with the greatest prospect of success.

SIERRA LEONE LETTER.

The Assessors Ordinance.

The publication of the Chief Justice's commendation of a recent jury in Sierra Leone has provoked the expression of a hope that trial by assessors will in future become rare, if not unknown, for at the last session of the Court every case was satisfactorily decided by jury. Trial by aid of assessors, which leaves the ultimate decision of guilt entirely in the judge's hands, has always been regarded as a slur upon the people, and its abolition was one of the major questions to have been laid before Mr. Ormsby-Gore had his original tour been carried out. Dissatisfaction with the method has been less articulate lately, partly, perhaps, because the Secretary of State, when interviewed by Mr. Fowell Boston, some time ago, held out no prospect of altering it at present, and also because there has been no definite case calling for special comment. No doubt when Mr. Ormsby-Gore's new plans for a tour materialises, the question will reassume its previous importance, but it is doubtful whether it will be entirely suspended for some time.

Educational Aid for African Girls.

While more ambitious socièties propound weighty theories for the advancement of the African peoples, the Annie Walsh Ex-Pupils' Friendly Society is continuing its small, but practical, share in the production of feminine leaders. A concert held at the end of October, at which the Governor of Sierra Leone and Lady Slater were present, was organised to provide funds for the education of two more pupils at the school, and was a collective effort which, apart from the benefit it proposes to confer on two promising girls, afforded in itself an exercise in co-operative organisation that cannot fail to be of value to the members of the friendly society themselves. Although individual Africans with sufficient means have been known to further the education of others, such efforts have generally been confined to male pupils. In Lagos, an Old Boys' Society provides scholarships for deserving youths, but the example of the Annie Walsh girls is one that could be followed with great benefit to Africans by every ex-pupils' association down the whole of the West Coast.

THE UGANDA RAILWAY.

In the Uganda Railway Estimates for 1925 a gross revenue of £1,803,896 was anticipated, and a gross expenditure on working account of £1,025,273. The present indications are that the estimate of revenue will be exceeded by £150,000 and the estimate of expenditure by £74,056, which would leave a balance of £299,680 to be transferred to the betterment fund instead of £223,736 as anticipated when the estimates for 1925 were presented to the Legislative Council.

The increase in earnings was due, the general manager of the Uganda Railway explained in moving the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation (Railway) Bill, 1925, to increased traffic. For the first nine months of 1925 the total tonnage of traffic carried on the railway was 695,255—an increase of 15 per cent. over the corresponding period of 1924, 87 per cent. over the corresponding period of 1922. On Lake Victoria the tonnage carried for the corresponding period of nine months was 118,018—an increase of 24 per cent. over 1924, 76 per cent. over 1923, and 473 per cent. over 1922. Excluding traffic carried for railway purposes, the increase in public traffic was 71.70 per cent. on the railway and 175 per cent. on Lake Victoria as compared with 1922. Over the railway no less than 43.39 per cent. of the total traffic carried for the first nine months of the year was railway traffic, i.e., construction material and railway stores generally, mainly in connection with the large programme of construction of new lines and works in progress.

Increased Tonnage.

Throughout the year the line and marine services have been hard put to it, with the limited facilities available and relaying in progress, to carry the increased tonnage. Difficulties will be experienced until the big programme of improvements now in hand is much further advanced. "For next year we are budgeting for a revenue of £2,009,800. The estimated expenditure will be £1,177,296. If the revenue anticipated is realised and expenditure can be kept within the estimates, then the amount contributed to the betterment fund for 1926 will be £191,087, as against £299,680 estimated for this year."

Mr. C. L. N. Felling, discussing the net revenue account, remarked on the interest charges for next year, which will amount to £434,812. The rapidity with which our interest charges are now increasing may be judged by the fact that for the year 1922 the interest charges amounted to £77,964 only. We anticipate, sir, that, quite apart from interest, commitments in the matter of loan expenditure will increase the interest charges by the year 1929 to about £600,000. This is quite apart from the interest charges on expenditure at the port.

At the present time the railway is contributing to the Colony and Protectorate of Kenya, to cover loan charges in respect of Kilindini Harbour expenditure, the sum of £103,732. "I consider making good from railway revenue losses in port working is not only very bad policy from the point of view of the general financial position of the railway," said Mr. Felling, "but is unsound on other grounds, and if the policy is maintained it must interfere seriously with railway development. The railway will have all it can do to carry non-paying branch lines, and the heavy interest charges on the very high expenditure on the Uasin Gishu Railway, without being burdened with additional charges in respect of the port, unless it is permitted to collect sufficient revenue per contra."

Transvaal Nationalists and Natives

It was known that last week much of the time of the Hoofd Komite of the Transvaal Nationalist Party, in their session here, was occupied in an animated debate on the Native policy of the Government, and on which there is much concern in the inner circles of the various Nationalist parties of the Union. It has since been made known that after the discussion a special committee consisting of Mr. A. S. van Hees, M.L.A, Rev. Mr. Fick, and Commandant Sarel Alberts was appointed to draw up and present to the Government in concrete form the views of the executive.

Mr van Hees, in the course of a few words with your representative, said that the Nationalist Party of the Transvaal fully recognise that some quid pro quo must be given to the Native in the place of the political rights which the Nationalists desire to see extinguished. They consider that Parliamentary representation for the Native is going too far in that direction. If anything were to be done it could be effected by the increase of the existing representation in the Senate, or by the creation of a small Native Parliament which would deal exclusively with Native Affairs, and to which Natives could be elected.

Referring to the resolutions of the special committee, he said it would be noticed that under the head of industrial segregation the coloured man was in several respects placed on a higher status than the Native. The extension of the political status to the coloured man he considers should not take place until such time as the status of the Native is more clearly defined. The Central Committee of the Transvaal Nationalist Party, which sat in Pretoria last week, appointed a special committee to draw up resolutions embracing the discussions which there took place on the subject of the Native policy. The special committee sat on Saturday and drew up the following resolutions, which were this morning handed to General Hertzog. The committee decided as follows:

(1) Uniformity in the native policy is a first requirement in the solution of the problem.

(2) In order to secure such uniformity, steps must be taken to incorporate the Bechuanaland Protectorate, Basutoland and Swaziland.

(3) The Nationalist Party of the Transvaal accepts segregation as a basic principle, and expresses its opinion that there are four chief sub divisions in this system, viz.: territorial segregation and political segregation. (a) Territorial segregation it would be almost impossible to carry out until Basutoland, Swaziland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate form a portion of the Union. b) Social, segregation is necessary for the maintenance (ophoud) of the the white man, and steps should be taken to prevent bastardisation, even if that has to be done by penal laws. (c) Industrial segregation is just as necessary, and this executive is of the opinion that this will solve the poor white and unemployment question (1) by keeping the native as far as possible out of skilled and civilised labour. The Wage Act is legislation that will operate in the direction of industrial segregation, and as such it is welcomed by the executive committee.

(2) Any vocations where a certificate of competency is necessary should not be open to natives and Asiatics. The Colour Bar Bill is legislation which carries out this principle.

(3) Work or business which are licensed by the Provincial authorities, as for example, the liquor trade and ordinary trade, should not be open to the native or Asiatic. Legislation such as the proposed amendment to the liquor laws would have the object of putting into effect this principle.

(4) Political segregation: (a) The Transvaal Nationalist Party expresses its opinion that the native should not have the franchise as far as Parliament, Provincial Councils or municipalities are concerned. (b) Under no circumstances is the Nationalist Party of the Tranvaal prepared to allow the native franchise to be extended to the north, and it feels strongly that the native franchise in the Cape should be curtailed. (c) The Nationalist Party of the Transvaal further asserts that they are not prepared to agree to the direct representation of the natives in Parliament, even though such representatives voted in an advisory capacity only, and even then the Transvaal Nationalists would not agree to it.

(4) The committee feels that the public of the Transvaall (irrespective of parties) will never agree to give direct representation to natives in Parliament, or to give them a vote in a Parliamentary election in the Transvaal.

(5) As far as the Cape coloureds are concerned, the committee is of the opinion that this question should remain in abeyance until such time as the native question has been satisfactorily solved.

Race Problem - 1925

Africa.

THE LAND PROBLEM IN THE GOLD COAST.

[By Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Rowe, D.S.O., M.C., R.A.]

The condition of the land question in the Gold Coast is not really worse than the conditions existing in the neighbouring West African Colonies. During service in Northern and Southern Nigeria, the Cameroon and the Gold Coast, I have had opportunity of observing the conditions existing in those countries, and recently, in the light of this experience, I have been able also to examine briefly the conditions in Sierra Leone. The position is bad throughout West Africa, but in the Gold Coast the trouble, although fundamentally no worse than in the other Colonies, assumes an acute form owing to certain local conditions which I shall endeavour to describe.

West African

The general policy which has been adopted is that the land belongs to the Native inhabitants, and that there is no waste land. The problem to-day is none the less a pressing one, requiring immediate and careful attention, for, owing to the rapidly-growing value of the land, disputes between Native owners are increasing in frequency all over the country, while many of the Stools are involved deeply in debt owing to expensive, prolonged and extensive litigation regarding ownership. Such a condition of things is destructive of stability, order and credit, and the consequences are far-reaching.

11-21-25

I propose first of all to examine the present state of affairs and to indicate briefly how it has arisen, and secondly, to propose remedies. It must be understood that the remarks made in a brief outline of such a large and complicated subject are of necessity of a general nature, and while attempting to indicate broadly the questions involved, statements must not be taken as exactly applying to every individual case.

Before the advent of Europeans, although there might have been a tendency towards the recognition, in places, of individual rights over land, individual ownership as known to-day was, as a general rule, non-existent. There was enough land for all requirements, and an individual belonging to any community could obtain land for farming for the asking, and remained in enjoyment of it so long as simple, well-known conditions were complied with. The Native idea, however, was that the land always remains vested in the community, and not in the individual. Should the individual disappear, or cease to cultivate the land, it might be allotted by the Chief or Headman to another.

To a great extent the idea of individual ownership of land was gradually introduced by the courts applying English law regardless of Native customs, which were not properly understood. Land was sequestrated by the courts for debt and sold, under the impression that Chiefs, or the occupiers, owned land. Although the courts naturally would disclaim that such sales of land transferred to the purchasers any better title than that possessed by the supposed "owners," such certificates of sale granted by the court naturally became by degrees to be considered to confer individual ownership, and indeed such documents were often taken to England to convince shareholders, and other persons, of the existence of the very best title, namely a certificate by the court of the country itself.

Whether it was originally a mistake or not, matters have progressed in this fashion for so many years, that, whether we wish to or not, we are now obliged to recognise the fact that individual ownership of land has come to stay, and cannot be disregarded now.

Large areas of land in the Gold Coast are still held on the original basis, and they are described as Stool lands, or non-alienated lands, and it has become customary to regard the Chief and elders of the Stool as being trustees, capable of allocating or disposing of such lands on behalf of the communities they represent.

It has been strongly denied by all Africans that any power exists to prevent alienation of the land or sales of Stool lands by the Chief or elders as they think fit. It is at present regarded as a fact that such land may be disposed of as "concessions" to European companies or sold to strangers or neighbours, the only restrictions existing being the Ordinances necessitating the review of the terms of a concession by the courts, with an idea of fairness and justice being obtained for unsophisticated rulers before a certificate of validity can be granted under the Ordinance, and the bargain thereby legally ratified.

Although the principle has been adopted that there are no waste lands, and that any area must be either owned by an individual or included within the general boundaries of a particular Stool, in practice little thought is given to the ownership of large, uncultivated areas, until attention is drawn to them by an increase in value, resulting either from the discovery of valuable minerals, the building of a railway, or the carrying out of some project by the Government or some such extraneous cause. Trouble then starts, and claimants arise in astonishing numbers, many with the slenderest of claims; in fact, anyone who considers that he has some vague chance of success, in the obscure circumstances generally existing, puts forward a claim.

The present lack of finality attached to the decisions of the courts cannot be considered to help matters. If two persons, engaged in a dispute concerning a certain portion of land, bring their respective cases to court, a decision may be given in favour of A as against B. It might be supposed that here the matter ended and A had established his claim. The judgment of the court is, however, *jus in personam* and there is nothing to prevent C turning up some years later before the court and succeeding in upsetting A's claim in his favour, while at any moment subsequently D may appear and start the trouble all over again. This is a well-known occurrence when, say, a bank or other enterprise has bought land and erected a building on it. The purchaser remains a target to be shot at continually by a succession of claimants who may succeed each in turn in establishing claims. Many firms have been driven to buy several times over the land they thought they owned from a series of successful claimants.

It is not the European companies alone that suffer from the present state of affairs. Constant and expensive litigation about land has so involved many Stools in debt that it is considered that the instability of the Native rulers and the annually increasing number of their destoolments can be directly traced to the conditions of weakness and financial embarrassment arising more often than not from this cause.

[The number of destoolments is reported by the Governor in his annual address as follows:—1904-08, 7; 1909-13, 23; 1914-18, 38; 1919-24, 41.]

If we add to this the inclination of the African to indulge a passion for litigation on the slightest pretext and to carry appeal after appeal as far as the Privy Council in England, if he can raise the funds to do so, it can be realised that the present state of affairs cannot be considered as anything but highly unsatisfactory. No statute of limitations exists in the Gold Coast and it is stated that the local bar is not in favour of its introduction.

In the past there is little doubt that many well-meaning attempts on the part of then-existing Administrations to improve matters have been misdirected, and, indeed, such violent opposition, ill-feeling and outcry have been aroused by abortive attempts that it has become a settled tendency in some people to view with suspicion and alarm any further suggestions to alter the present recognised unsatisfactory state of affairs, while nothing appears to have been easier than to raise an agitation against any measure even remotely connected, in the people's minds, with anything to do with land. The firm and clear enunciation in recent years of the Government's general policy, and the exactitude and fairness of the Executive in all matters connected with the question, have now gone far to dispel these suspicions, and it merely requires open and frank discussion, together with the adoption of correct measures, to enlist fully the sympathy of the Chiefs and people in carrying out measures that must gradually prove of incalculable benefit to themselves. It should, however, be clearly recognised that the mistakes and delays of the past can only be corrected very gradually, step by step, and that that is all the more reason why the question should now be publicly thrashed out and the work begun as early as possible.

It is a remarkable fact that fundamental principles governing land reform have only become understood and accepted within the last century, and to those who have not particularly studied the question they still remain obscure. In addition, the history of the gradual adoption of the reforms in each country into which they have been introduced, is that of obstruction and opposition in many quarters, gradually worn down by a slow but sure appreciation of the remarkable benefits to be realised.

The solution of the problem is divided into two parts, viz.:—

(a) The method of determining the legality of rights.
(b) The method of recording them when their legality is accepted.

I intend to start with a discussion of the second part, the recording or registration of rights in land, as the first question to be dealt with. The ultimate aim of all systems must be the eventual guarantee of a perfect title to the landowner, and as this is our ultimate goal, I will discuss the complete system towards which we must move, but it must not be supposed that such a system can be introduced immediately, in its entirety, for the whole country, but, if we have clearly before us, and accept, the principle involved, the first step has been taken in the right direction.

The world primarily owes the establishment of a system of registration of title to Sir Robert Torrens, who, before his appointment as a Registrar of Deeds, was a Commissioner of Customs in Australia, and the idea was suggested to him by his experiences in connection with the transfer of rights in ships and shares of ships, the procedure in which was simple.

Ships have to be registered, and to display clearly their name and place of registry: and all transactions affecting them have to be registered in the place of registry. Thus, Sir Robert Torrens arrived at the conclusion that an administrative subdivision of land could, in the case of landed property, replace the maritime port of entry, while the network of properties included within its boundaries could, at any one moment, be regarded as corresponding to a group of closely-packed shipping.

The fundamental advantage of the practice in force for registration of rights in ships, was that record was concentrated in a known place, and, with regard to a relatively permanent and readily traceable piece of property—a given vessel—instead of being scattered in a number of places and divided among an unknown number of persons.

In the case of registration of title to land, attention is transferred from one or more mobile, ephemeral, mistakable units, the individuals temporarily possessing rights over a patch of the earth's surface, to a single, immovable, indestructible and precisely definable unit, the patch of ground itself.

The terms "immovable" and "real estate" have become legal terms for land and house property because the primary characteristics of such property are immovability and objective existence.

The second advantage of the Torrens system is the guarantee of rights. Even when registers are kept by date and name of contracting party, lengthy researches are necessary before any property can be declared free of opposing claims.

Torrens reversed this procedure by giving primary consideration to the property unit and secondary consideration to the persons possessing or dealing with regard to rights over it.

A complication arises owing to the way in which the unit may alter (alteration of boundaries, etc.), but this complication can be dealt with effectively. Disregarding this complication for the moment, declaration and guarantee of rights over any given unit of property become simple and sure, as soon as:—

(a) Pre-existing rights over such unit have been once authoritatively investigated and defined, and

(b) Statutory registration is required for all subsequent transfers of such rights.

It is the ease and certainty with which rights can be determined and vouched for that constitute the great advantage of the system. (See the report of the Egyptian Commission on Registration of Title, 1917-1921.)

It is to be noticed that Sir Robert Torrens's reform dealt, not with the determination of legal rights, but with the method of recording employed. The resulting clarification of legal rights is merely a fruit of effective record, and not a reform *per se*.

The system has at present spread to the following countries in the Empire :—

Australian Group :—New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia, Papua, Northern Territories, Dominion of New Zealand, Fiji.

Canadian Group :—Ontario, British Columbia, Manitoba, Sascatchewan, Alberta, North-West Territories, Yukon, Nova Scotia.

Crown Colonies and Protectorates :—British Honduras, Trinidad, Tobago, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Federated Malay States, Ceylon, Uganda, the Sudan.

The system is also in extensive use in America, Germany, and other foreign countries, and had been introduced by the Germans into the Cameroon, where the Natives specially petitioned the French, requesting them to preserve the system. It will be seen, therefore, that registration of title appears to be adaptable to any kind of country.

The introduction into a country, however, appears to encounter the chief resistance from the lawyers. A study of the Royal Commission of 1908 on the Registration of title in England shows this very clearly, and when Sir Robert Torrens introduced it in South Australia, "it was strongly opposed by lawyers of every class, from solicitors to judges, and no harder things have been said of the Torrens system generally than have been said in South Australia." ("The Australian Torrens System," by J. E. Hogg, of Lincoln's Inn, barrister-at-law.) This opposition to reform is, however, gradually overcome in each country as the benefits to be gained are realised by the community, and it is clear, therefore, that publicity and full realisation of the meaning of the reforms by the public is the first step towards their successful introduction.

Another most important point is the necessity for keeping any Ordinance introducing reforms as clear and simple as possible. The essence of the system is its simplicity and freedom from needless legal complications and technicalities. The history of the reforms shows clearly that they have been jeopardised not only by opposition to their introduction in the first instance, but, also, when eventually decided upon, by misguided attempts to incorporate and preserve in the new system many legal technicalities which are quite unnecessary, and merely serve to clog the machinery.

"It will probably be conceded that the English Act of 1862 was better drafted and more scientifically modelled in accordance with English real property law. Nevertheless, in New Zealand the Land Registry Act, 1860, after a trial of 10 years, and in Victoria and New South Wales Bills on the same lines, were all abandoned in favour of measures based on Sir Robert Torrens's statutes, and the Australian system has been as successful in obtaining the approval of the public as the English system has been unsuccessful. One explanation, or a partial explanation, of this, seems to be that the English Acts have, by that very adherence to the forms and principles of English land law and conveyancing, in which Sir Robert Torrens's Act was strikingly deficient, failed to remedy the evils incidental to the equitable estate. The South Australian statutes grappled with these evils—certainly rather from the point of view of a layman than a lawyer—with great boldness, and at the cost of neglecting the feudal rules which underlie real property law; but the result has been the nearest approach yet made in form to allodial ownership under purely English law." (Hogg.)

The history of the system, therefore, clearly shows the necessity for avoiding the continuance of needless legal technicalities which can be abolished and which it is the tendency of the lawyers to retain :—

"In England, ... the presence of a high degree of technical legal knowledge in the framers of analogous acts appears to have contributed in some measure to some of the imperfections of the English system of registration of title, by tending to preserve legal formalities which are really unnecessary." (Hogg.)

The next point to be considered is the question of introduction of machinery to effect the necessary changes. It is clearly shown in the report of the Egyptian Commission that it is unnecessary and undesirable to wait till the final introduction of guaranteed title before commencing reforms in the right direction. What is first needed is the acceptance of the principle of registration of title, and then the alteration of the system of registration in the required direction can be carried out. The Egyptian report says :—"The basis of the Torrens system is that it is founded on the property unit and not the property owner. If, then, the present system of registration can be altered so that registration is based on the property unit, the essential alteration in the machinery of record will have been made, and a channel established by which the operation of guaranteed Registration of Title can be gradually introduced without further change."

"There is no abiding reason why the machinery of record laid down (for the Torrens system) should not be adopted and ultilised as it stands."

After discussing local difficulties, the report goes on to say :—"None the less, on the ground of accuracy alone, an increasing advantage over existing conditions would immediately be secured, while a position would have been obtained which permitted record by unit of property to be inaugurated instead of record by interested individuals. The establishment of record by units of property is the real key to the introduction of registration of title."

It cannot, therefore, be too clearly emphasised that those transitory and sometimes much-embarrassed phantoms, the landowners, are of temporary interest only, changing during short periods, while the land, which is principally to be considered, will remain as long as the world itself retains its present form.

It will be evident, therefore, that the next step after the acceptance of the general principle of registration of title is the improvement and alteration of the system of registration. At present the Deeds Registry in Accra merely registers a deed, provided that it is properly stamped, and apparently in order. No examination of the deed from any other point of view is carried out and, as may be imagined, there are cases in which two deeds purporting to convey the same land to different persons are registered on the same day, and no attempt is at present made to ascertain the value or legality of an instrument registered except superficially.

The late Sir H. Conway Belfield, who carried out an exhaustive inquiry into the land question in the Gold Coast, remarked as follows :—

"The filing of notice and accompanying documents with the Registrar of the Court, serves only to bring the matter within the cognisance of the judicial authority. Registration in the office which is responsible for the custody and compilation of land records is essential, if the Government desires to obtain complete information regarding all such transactions." (Cd. 6278.)

The Egyptian report repeatedly emphasised the necessity for legal determination of rights to go hand in hand with survey examination and definition of the situation and extent of the land. Attempts to deal with land in the courts, or in registry offices separated from the survey, achieve nothing. The land must be examined, located, and described on the spot at the same time.

"The concurrent determination of legal rights must initially be performed *in situ*, and it is so closely bound up with the technical survey operations of locating and fixing boundaries and interpreting earlier definitions of positions that the combination of these field operations by suitable representation of legal authority on the spot at the time of survey is essential."

The appointment of a Surveyor-registrar is recommended, as he will always be required to exercise control calling for special knowledge of survey operations. The fatal consequences of lack of appreciation of the part which survey must take in all land questions are fully disclosed also in the report of the Royal Commission on the subject in South Africa.

It is clear, therefore, that one of the principles to be accepted is that registration cannot be separated from survey, and that critical scrutiny of deeds involves physical scrutiny as well as legal scrutiny, and the first is a function of the Survey Department.

The land book, which is inseparably associated with registration of title, can be used for the registration of unguaranteed claims, just as well as it can for guaranteed rights. If the land book is used merely as a record of claims acceptable *prima facie* but susceptible of subsequent adjustment, it is quite clear that considerably greater latitude can be allowed in this respect without hurtful confusion arising in the record. The opportunity thus offered of utilising the land book for recording claims of a provisional character, as distinct from accepted rights, enables the machinery devised by Torrens to be used long before the conditions required for the introduction of guaranteed registration of title are actually established. This procedure leads to the sifting and definition of rights being ultimately effected by the combined processes of suitable initial scrutiny, efflux of time, and judicial decision. Reform can thus be initiated on one common basis for the whole country at an early date and it can be operated with progressive efficiency until culmination is reached in the establishment of fully guaranteed Registration of Title.

[We are asked to state that Colonel Rowe's interesting and valuable article is meant to be taken as expressing his personal view alone.—ED., "W.A."]

Race Problem - 1925.

Africa.

NIGERIA LETTER.

Land Questions in the Legislative Council.

Queries dealing with land were somewhat numerous at the October meeting of the Legislative Council, but no serious issues were directly raised. With regard to Lagos, there is a demand for additional recreation space, but the use of the old golf-links was negatived for the second time, the Government holding out no hope of a change of mind, especially since the removal of the Polo Club to Ikoyi will release a further area on the Race Course. With regard to the Yaba site, the Commercial Member for Lagos ascertained that the estimated cost of the whole area, exclusive of compensation for houses, was £188,000, while the actual expenditure to date on the housing scheme, exclusive of the land, was £37,479. The total number of houses to which the Town Council had committed itself was 84, and of these 64 were complete and the remainder nearly so. It will thus be seen that the congestion in Lagos is still far from being remedied. Concerning lands elsewhere, the agreements regarding expropriations at Enugu, asked for by the Member for Calabar, were not produced, the transactions not yet being completed. A direct question as to the right of Government to acquire lands merely to lease to merchants, or even back to the original owners, brought the reply that this would be a "private purpose," for which Government had no powers. The crux of the matter is the fact that lands acquired for town sites are let at large rentals, of which the original African owner often receives little, and he cannot be convinced, any more than European landowners are convinced, that a lion's share of the "unearned increment value" should go to the Government. A curious point arose regarding the land returned to Chief Nana after his exile. "America Town" was given to him, but on his death passed on to the people as communal land. It is now being claimed that as Nana returned as a private citizen, this land is the personal property of his heirs. The official view is the more logical one that in regard to that particular hamlet Nana resumed, in point of fact, only his forfeited rights as a ruler, and not personal ownership.

Food Taxes in Nigeria.

Among miscellaneous questions brought up at the Legislative Council meeting was that of food taxes, which last year yielded £145,420, as compared with an estimate of £69,000. Little was added to previous arguments for the abolition of this duty, but the Third Lagos Member was voicing the popular desire when he asked that either cold storage provisions should be taxed, or that other imported food should be free. The Government has promised to give the matter careful consideration. Sanitation produced a number of questions, some due to an imperfect realisation of the fact that plague has been prevalent because the disease has been a new introduction to an environment greatly favouring its development, and not because there has been any particular modification in local sanitary conditions. How important it is that it should be stamped out is seen from the fact that in 399 days, to August 31, the port was closed for 203. The appointment of Africans to higher sanitary posts was mentioned, but it was shown that suitable candidates for all the existing posts are not forthcoming. With regard to British-trained midwives, the Government could promise no employment for some time to come, although suitably-qualified nurses would be offered posts as second-class nurses, from which, like others, they would have a chance of passing by examination to higher appointments. In this respect, one would like to see the trained midwife encouraged by Government, for several girls are in training in England at the present time, and should ultimately be of considerable value to Nigeria. Another question which the Government cannot deal with at present is an improved sewage scheme for Lagos. This is obviously necessary, but the flatness of the area to be served, as well as the congestion, makes the subject one of considerable difficulty, apart from financial considerations.

Dr. A. O. Olaribigbe.

The eagerness with which Ibadan has been looking forward for the past few years to the arrival of an African medical practitioner was shown in the warmth of the two public welcomes accorded to Dr. Olaribigbe on his arrival from the Gambia. The first reception was representative of Africans, Europeans, and Syrians, and was presided over by the Rev. E. Nightingale, while the second, that of the Egbe Agba-O-Tan, was the doctor's real welcome from the African community. In thanking the Agba-O-Tan Society for their reception, the doctor turned to the question of union and a more practical system of education—the former to do away with petty tribal jealousies and problems, and the latter to avoid the present production of individuals who were literate, but were often almost useless as Africans. Ibadan considers itself fortunate in having Dr. Olaribigbe as its first residential African practitioner, and will find, as the Gambia has found, that his 20 years' residence in Europe has added considerably to the sane strength of his patriotism.

ASHANTI'S NEOLITHIC AGE.

DR. JOHN BEATTIE'S INVESTIGATIONS.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Dr. John Beattie, of University College, who was prominently associated with Professor G. Elliot Smith's investigation of what is known as the Taungs Skull, has just returned from a short scientific trip to the West Coast of Africa.

Dr. Beattie is convinced that Ashanti and the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast Colony offer the ethnologist and anthropologist an alluring field for research. His zeal has been fired by the results of his own preliminary survey, and also by the researches of Major Rattray, Anthropologist to the Government of the Gold Coast, to the thoroughness and importance of whose work he pays just tribute.

"I went out to the West Coast," Dr. Beattie informed me, "hoping to find evidence of the existence of ancient man, and in certain localities, notably among the Mampong sandstone scarp, I feel convinced that if close investigation were carried out, material evidence of this would be forthcoming. There seems to be no doubt that man possessing neolithic culture did inhabit these regions."

Dr. Beattie brought back with him some polished stone implements used by these people.

"It is rather remarkable," he continued, "that the places in which I found these things should be regarded as holy by the tribes. There is still a sort of taboo upon them. The Natives are not at all anxious for Europeans to visit them. They regard them as the dwelling place of ancestral spirits. I think that if these places were investigated with the consent of the tribes it would be found that these neolithic deposits would throw considerable light on the place of origin of the Ashanti civilisation. All the neolithic implements so far found in Ashanti have been discovered during the making of roads through forest country. They are found mixed up with bones of the various animals which were hunted for food and with fragments of pottery.

"These people of Ashanti are forest dwellers. They live in small communities which in social organisation are almost perfect examples of communism. Major Rattray is now investigating their traditions and customs. He has a wonderful power of inspiring their confidence. So completely is he trusted that he has been permitted to attend certain religious ceremonies which no other White man, to my knowledge, has witnessed. This is a tremendous tribute to his personality, and his regard for Native susceptibilities where their tribal ceremonies are concerned."

Dr. Beattie said that the tribes which would well reward sympathetic and qualified investigation were those to the north of the Volta river. They are not forest people like the Ashantis, but veld dwellers. Except for what has been done by Capt. Armitage, the Governor of the Gambia, little is known concerning them.

"The real need is for two or three trained investigators to carry on and amlify the work of Major Rattray," he observed. "The value of such work would be immense, for a knowledge of tribal history and social and religious ceremonies is of extreme importance in administrative work. It was ignorance of these things that was largely responsible for the Ashanti War, when the Golden Stool of Ashanti was foolishly demanded as part of the spoils of the victor."

Dr. Beattie also carried out a few cursory investigations in the coastal regions, among the Fanti tribes. "These people, he said, "are not so interesting as the Ashantis. This is partly because they have been in contact with European civilisation for three or four centuries. Hence into their folklore there has now crept certain traces of Christian influences. They have not the national spirit which is seen among the Ashanti, and in many ways are morally and physically inferior to the forest and grass country tribes in the hinterland."

The appointment of a Government Anthropologist has justified itself again and again in the Gold Coast Colony. Knotty points of Native law and custom can only be solved by persons who understand the religious foundations upon which Native law is based.

The example of the Gold Coast is one which should be followed by every Colony or nation administering Native populations. In this way alone is sympathetic government to be obtained and the Native helped and supported in respecting the customs and laws of his ancestors.

"Descendants of Slaves."

The "Gold Coast Times," taking exception to a statement in WEST AFRICA of September 26 (p. 1225) that in "all the large towns of the Coast the grand-children of the ex-slaves formed the bulk of the welcomers" of the Prince of Wales, points out that at the Gold Coast the slaves exported were never repatriated, and could therefore have left few grandchildren—certainly not enough to have formed the bulk of the welcomers of the Prince of Wales at any of the towns of the Gold Coast or Ashanti. In this respect the "Times" is correct, although it is taking but a narrow view to suggest that the accident of slavery in a previous generation can cast any slur upon existing individuals in a civilised society. In Sierra Leone there is recognition of this fact, for there is rather a tendency for families to try to remember that they are "repatriates," and not "aborigines" (although, of course, many repatriates were free), when they should all be "Sierra Leoneans." Whether the people welcoming the Prince were descendants of slaves or enslavers will not, however, affect the spirit of the article in WEST AFRICA, which was intended to stress the progress that has been made since those "bad old days," when even men of piety saw nothing wrong in the sale of their fellows to fulfil the needs of plantations.

GRIQUAS AND NATIVES

WE hav had the honour of being visited last week at our office by the Paramount Chief of the Griquas Mr. A A. S. Le Fleur. He is touring the Cape Province with the aim of awakening his people to the necessity of a race-consciousness that will lead to self help and emancipation from entire dependance on the white race for their future well-being The land problem,

Mr Le Fleur says will be solved only by the outright purchase of land by the Griquas for ownership and occupation, and that any gifts of land by the Government cannot be regarded as a safe proposition for their future generations. All governments have a nack of nullifying gifts of land by passing legislation cancelling previous grants of land to aborigines, hence his advice to buy land outright and obtaining title deeds. Mr. Le Fleur maintains that the

MISSIONARIES ARE TO BLAME

for congestion in land tenure by the aboriginal races If missionaries had impressed to their people the necessity to purchase land and retaining it in the early days, instead of hoarding them in villages and mission stations together, there would not be such a famine of land. Again, Mr. Le Fleur continues, the education set by missionaries for aborigines aimed at providing a living in European avenues of employment, and now the aborigines have come up against a state colour bar barrier excluding them from such employment Alluding to the

FRANCHISE QUESTION

the Griqua Chief advises the aborigines not to grip the shadow for the substance He characterises the Cape Native franchise controlling a few parliamentary seats as a shadow, and attaches more importance to General Hertzog's offer of representation of the Union Natives as outlined in his Smithfield speech. In his own words he puts it :

"The Cape Franchise was always a shadow and no substance, but what is offered is substance—here your rights shall be made use of, where in the past it was always side-tracked. We say take it and you will build up the finest political body in the world if you work this first step properly - then the Dutch people have given you a great concession leave the vote, that means nothing- and take the New Bill and make a success of it and you will benefit, for by so doing you will learn to vote on questions affecting your valid rights, and not be the political party's tools and gain nothing in the end

You need not feel sorry to loose the parish pump, for that was all what the present franchise is worth to you, but what you get now is direct representation you would be fools not to allow yourselves, at this stage, to be represented by able Europeans, than by etting an upstart out of your race to go and befool you.

In tackling the question of the differentiation between Coloureds and Natives, Mr, Le Fleur was severe in his criticism of the use of the word "Coloured" in a luding to what he would call Griquas. The name "coloured" would always be regarded by him and his people as degrading, and they would refuse to be called Bastards for the sake of accepting equality with Europeans. They welcomed the status of remaining in the Native category, because in the "coloured" definition they would be leaping into the dark in view of what Gen Hertzog and Hon. Mr Beyers say viz that the Griquas are not a coloured race.

As a step in the direction of land purchase the Chief informed us that European farms have been purchased by the Griquas on the banks of the Vaal River near Barkly West for occupation by them, and a movement in establishing a national church among Griquas has met with phenomenal success. He regards the coloured political organisations of the Cape known as the A.P.O. and National ; ond as instruments destined to stultify the progress of his people by engendering the vain hopes of a chimerical equality of coloured people with Europeans.

Open Letter to Race Leaders.

[By S. M. B. Nowana.]

W. Pelem Esq., President Bantu Union.

Rev E. Mdolomba, President Cape African Congress.

Mr. S. T Plaatje, President African Brotherhood Society.

Professor D D T. Jabavu, B A. (London , President C.N.T.A., President Ciskei Native Convention, President Native Farmers' Association

Chief Ben. Tele, President All African Convention.

J. G Gumbs Esq , President I C.U

A J Dlamini Esq., President I.C.W.U.

J A. Sishuba Esq., President, Umkuseli.

Madam Maxeke, B.Sc. (U.S.A. President Women's League.

GREETINGS,—I am addressing you as pledged representatives and leaders of recognised Bantu Organisations in the Cape of Good Hope, with regard, very particularly, to the Native Vote which is apparently in great danger of being taken away or curtailed by the present Government of South Africa

It appears most desirable, beyond the possibility of imagination, that a convention of the Cape Bantu Leaders should be convened at no distant date for the express purpose of devising means and ways whereby this threatening calamity may be averted.

It is not necessary for me to labour the point, because, the danger of whittling away the Cape Native Franchise is highly recognised by the Bantu Nation, as well as the European public of the Union.

I, therefore, come to the natural conclusion that at this critical juncture of our political strangulation you should be summoned to the Bar of the Bantu Nation of this Province to undertake direct operations in defence of the political rights of the people whose cause you have chosen to champion.

Nkosi sikelela i Afrika.

I. C. W. U. Head Quarters.

(Contributed)

Last Saturday night the Mayor (Cr. Major Sellick) opened the club for non European Workers in 60, Durban Street, Uitenhage, under the auspices of the Industrial and Commercial Amalgamated Workers' Union.

Mr. Bennett Nowana presided, supported by Mr. A. J. Dlamini.

Amongst those present were : the Rev. B. B. Kondlo, the Rev. S. Mdala, the Rev. Ntlemeza, Miss T. Nowana, Nurse Maneli, Miss Maud Mayedwa, Mr. H. Veraiker, Mr. Smith, Miss Mqobongo, Miss Xotyeni, Mrs. Mgumbela, Miss Kesa, Miss E. Zani, Mr. I. Makappa, Mr. W. Patsha, Mr. A. Jonas, Mr. Qoqo and Mr. Jas. Nkenku.

After introducing the Mayor, Mr. Nowana congratulated the non-European residents of Uitenhage on having Major Sellick as Mayor of the town. His democratic views on the colour question of the Union were too well known among the Native and Coloured community : and in the last 18 months that he has been Mayor there was already marked improvements in the locations of Uitenhage (Applause), He felt that a word of gratitude and appreciation was due to the Council for the manner in which it was battling with the insanitary condition of its non-European population in the locations (Applause).

The appointment of three non European Nurses was clear proof of the earnestness of the Health Committee to purge the locations of any contagious malady. It was now for the Natives and Coloured residents to show that they were worthy of these things by co-operating with the Local Authority in making their homes a fitting place for civilised beings to live in. (Applause). In conclusion, he welcomed the Mayor on behalf of the I.C.W.U. and the general non-European community.

The Mayor, who was loudly applauded, said it was a great pleasure for him to address a gathering of Natives and Coloured people who were endeavouring to improve their social status as well as their economic conditions. As one who had travelled extensively the length and breath of South Africa he had come into contact with Natives of all walks of life, and took a keen interest in studying their different modes of living. It was from these travels that he had learned to be broad-minded on what is called the Native problem. He was glad to say that the Natives and the Coloured races of the Union were progressing more rapidly under the aegis of modern governments than they were thirty years ago, in spite of the fact that they had their own difficulties to overcome.

The greatest obstacle to Natives and Coloured progress, in his mind, was that the Bantu races attatched very little importance to the value of time. The possibilities of the non-European races in South Africa were tremendously great if they only knew the value of time in the accomplishment of their national aspirations and needs. (Applause).

He did not see any reason why the non-European races should not be encouraged to organise themselves when it was for a good purpose ; there was certainly very little hope for them achieving anything good for their race with their forces disorganised. In the Cape Province they had able leaders, but intelligence, to be of value, should be rightly employed in raising the status of the lower orders on sound moral lines in commerce, religion and in the dignity of labour. (Applause). He hoped that the I.C.W.U. was organising the Natives and Coloured workers on these lines and not to contaminate the minds of a people who were just emerging from their primitive state. He desired to say a word or two with regard to the political situation as affecting the Native Races in the Cape Province. There seems to be a great panic amongst the Natives at the present moment concerning the Native franchise. The rumour abroad was that the present government was aiming at taking away the exisiting franchise of the Natives in this Province. He did not think for a moment that the government would attempt such a step in view of the fact that the Cape Native franchise was entrenched in the South Africa Act (Applause). After referring at length to municipal affairs he declared "The Workers' Club" opened.

The Rev. B. B. Kondlo, on behalf of the I.C.W.U. moved a vote of thanks, seconded by the Rev. S. Mdala.

The Mayor, replying to the vote of thanks, said the Native and Coloured residents of the locations would always receive a square deal from the council, but this much he desired to impress upon them that, as the Native revenue, under the provisions of the Natives (Urban Areas) Act, was ear marked for improvements of Natives in the locations, for every thing they asked from the Council it meant more expenditure which must eventually recoil on their shoulders.

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AFRICA AND HER PROGRESS.

(By Odon)

The vices of the civilisation of some primitive peoples seemed, according to historical research to have sprang from certain sources, which were unknown and which it was difficult to conquer, that modern countries seem to enjoy peculiar forms of civilisation.

Africa had at all times been designated *The Dark Continent*, owing to the inaccessible condition of her interior regions, and although the statement was true to a certain extent the average African of the present generation feels sad to endure the evil influence of such a disgraceful qualification.

It may be interesting to learn that if the various States of Africa had been able to utilise and develop their material resources, only few countries or nations (outside Africa) could cope with her in all matters relating to racial and social betterment. The cry for progress has always proved a long felt want in the mind of the true African.

If we take a view of the commercial and the scientific progress of Europe and America we are apt to conclude that our progress is not yet realised. When can we be in a position to achieve this? This is a question submitted to the whole race of Africans to decide.

Now the answer is not because we Africans were not gifted with the power to adapt things for our purpose and with limbs to second the intentions of our will as some discoverers and inventors of some foreign nations were, but judging from the run of things in general, we are justified in concluding that the fault lies on the whitemen, who came to the Coast as philantropists, and who acted as impediments to our progress and advancement. This is not calculated to be an insult to the average whiteman but one cannot avoid recalling the facts of history whenever occasion requires them.

The future of Africa depends upon the foundations which we are building at present. In order that she may become prosperous, substantial co-operation should be the determining factor. It behoves us, therefore, to stir up our spirits in reviving the lost chances which were offered us by nature and which meant so much to us. Empires rise and fall. Who ever thought that the Assyrian or Roman Empire would fall? Was there no wonder when the Empire of Rome began to decline and fall? Is this not so encouraging as to impress upon the mind of the average African the fact, that Africa also will, in her proper time, arise to reclaim the precedented rights of her long missing Civilisation, Religion and Philosophy.

It is an inexorable Law of Nature that "Like attracts like." It is an African that can satisfy the desires of his brother African, and can sympathise with his sorrows. It is therefore in the highest degree essential that each and every one of us should look forward to cultivating habits that may have a direct bearing on our future progress. The initiative ideas of the race are also an essential element in the furthering of our progress.

THE SIERRA LEONE
WEEKLY NEWS
Saturday, November 7, 1925.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN PROVINCE FOR THE YEAR 1924.

II.

THE educational facilities in this Province have been provided more by the Religious Denominations than by the Government. In 1921, there were thirty-six schools of various denominations with an enrolment of 1,645. Against this was one undenominational Government school at Gbangbama, with a daily average attendance of 19. The Government's contribution to Education that year, (this included the annual capitation grants to the denominational schools) was £480 18s. 4d. The report for that year stated that there was a steady, growing demand for education and that thirteen of the Paramount chiefs had sent their children to the Government schools at Bo and Njala. In 1922 the schools were reduced to thirty-two. Small Government schools were in the course of opening at Zimmi, Mano River District, Jimmi and the growing demand for education was demonstrated by the willingness of the people to contribute their own share by the putting up of buildings for schools. A few of the wealthier people sent their children to Bonthe. The Paramount Chiefs expressed themselves very emphatically as to their wish in this direction, fixing their preference for such schools as would afford the opportunity of teaching the children some useful handicrafts so as to rid to some extent, the Province of unskilled labour. The amount spent on the head of Education was £1,147 4s. 5d., whilst the Prisons exclusive of uniforms, tools supplied from Freetown, drew from the revenue more than the double, £2,808 8s. 4d. The report for 1924 states that there were forty-three schools in the Province consisting of 1,923 pupils, apart from three Government schools with 219 pupils. In spite of the expressed wish of the Paramount Chiefs for some industrial training and the definite statement by the Director of Education in his 1923 Report, to the effect that the aim would be to introduce more hand—work into every school and have all literary subjects taught practically and correctly, yet it would appear that nothing had been done in connection with these Government schools beyond inculcating an elementary knowledge of agriculture by practical demonstration. No attempt had been made to grant the expressed wish of the people for industrial education but attempts were made to introduce the Boy Scouts Movement even though some schoolmasters had no knowledge of Scouting. In connection with the Scout Movement the report states that a district fund has been established under the control of the District Commissioner. It only shows what could be done if the authorities are willing. We are convinced that the Scout Movement is a noble and useful Institution to assist to develop character in the boys; but this alone will not suffice, the children must be educated; they must be given the opportunity of such improvement of the mind which are afforded by the establishment of simple elementary schools such as the reports says are required, and for which definite recommendations have been submitted to headquarters. We are not in the position to state what has been the difficulty to carry out the plans which His Excellency the Governor has marked out since he assumed the reins of Government.

We are aware that the Government is just now reconstructing the old schemes which have been allowed to consume so much of the revenue of the Colony without adequate and appreciable results. But what ever may be done in this direction should not in the least deprive the people of simple elementary schools in such parts of the Province not supplied by the Religious Denominations.

The revenue for the year amounted to £102,611 15s. 6d. and the amount spent by Government, in aid of education carried on by the denominations and by itself was £1,138 7s. 9d. This certainly is not progress. We are quite anxious about this matter because it should not be forgotten that the present is the period of formation and transition the people of the Protectorate are passing from their rude state to one which may become useful or dangerous in the future according as they are given the opportunity of shaping their outlook and moulding their minds in the direction of becoming useful and law-abiding subjects. There are other influences being brought to bear on their minds which without education would make them dangerous and it is just possible that a time will come when there would spring up that natural **discontent,** by which they would become dissatisfied with their conditions and a sort of unrest would follow which would not be in harmony with peaceful settlement and progressive development. Let the people be educated, let them be taught how to read and write; let their mental eyes be opened so that they can explore for themselves the hidden truths which would guide them towards the fulfilment of their destiny. Otherwise, there is bound to be a reaction; it may not be in the immediate present, but it seems an inevitable consequence of the process of colonisation of the present time.

We may rightly guess that one of the reasons Government would put forth in not being able to carry out any definite programme in this direction would be the plea of **no funds**. But it is clear that the present arrangement, the present mode of distribution of the available funds is open to grave and serious objections. Whatever may be the position the Government may take in justification of its policy of running the Bo School, it is plain to ordinary commonsense mortals, that only Governments of our own, could continue to spend money on such an expensive, extravagant and conservative scheme, when the mass of the people are welled up in ignorance and educational paralysis. We want the Government to be frank with itself. It is not wisdom to keep the people of the Protectorate so long without the kind of education that would make them develop useful and self-dependent subjects, able to turn out the products of their lands, able to make the articles for their own comforts and to use their talents for the continued progress of their children.

We trust we have given no offence but that we have caused some more serious consideration to be given to this aspect of the people's welfare; for if during the next twenty years nothing better than the spasmodic efforts of the present is done to raise the people from the down-trodden and helpless condition they are at present, it should not be a surprise if it would cost the Government more to withstand the onslaught which will ensue when **ignorance** like a hydra-headed monster shall have entirely possessed their minds and they begin to ask questions that would certainly not be easy to answer and make demands, beyond the power of Government to fulfil.

THE COLOUR PROBLEM IN SOUTH AFRICA

[*To the Editor of the* SPECTATOR.]

SIR,—The article in your issue of September 12th on the Colour Problem in South Africa gives, as far as it goes, a very fair view of the question, but does not lay any stress on the reason why the natives are pushing out the coloured (and the white) man. I cannot say much about the coloured man, as he is mainly to be found in the Cape Province and in Griqualand, neither of which I know well, but in Natal and the Transvaal the native is encroaching on occupations which were for long entirely in the hands of Europeans, mainly because the white labour in the Union is so unsatisfactory. Almost any white labourer or artisan will require at least one or two natives to do all the rough work for him; one may sometimes even see, in the towns, a white mason or bricklayer sitting down smoking whilst a native is laying the stones or bricks for him. No wonder that work is expensive in the towns. And excellent work the natives do. Of course, in the towns, the European trade unions have things pretty well their own way, though even in towns natives sometimes do skilled work. I am writing of the Transvaal and Natal principally.

Though there are hundreds of unemployed whites (I include those who are on Government or municipal relief works) it is all but impossible to find a lad or a man who will work honestly on a farm. The relief works, whether conducted by the Government or by municipalities, have hitherto proved ruinously costly. On the railways time is often deliberately wasted by engine drivers, either to get more overtime pay or because the time-table does not suit their convenience; and this at a time when congestion of traffic is hampering farmers and merchants. The Colour Bar Bill is a gross injustice to the native: the object of it is to prevent him from raising himself. The Indian does not form a desirable element in South Africa. As a trader he is not above suspicion on any count; he smuggles when he can, and will supply the natives with drink or even arms and ammunition, if he has a chance. In the towns, the "coolies" cause a good deal of annoyance to housewives because they buy up fruit and vegetables wholesale at rubbish prices and retail them at exorbitant rates. But the housewives have only themselves to thank for this, as they could soon put a stop to it by a little organization amongst themselves.—I am, Sir, &c.,

INDUNA YIHASHA.

Natal, October 21st.

The Basutoland COUNCIL.

The Twentieth Session.

DEBATE ON EDUCATION TAX.

(Continued)

Cr Phamotse, said he believed the Paramount Chief was looking to them for intelligent opinion on the matter before the Council. If tax was proposed they were first obliged to probe the matter deeply and find out for what reasons tax was to be levied, and whether such reasons were sound and whether there was no extravagance noticeable or traceable, and also if there was no other possible means of making up the shortage besides taxing the nation. The Basuto were not dissatisfied for paying tax but were dissatisfied with the manner the revenue was expended They were aware that the government was employing many officers to whom they paid very high salaries. It was not mere pretence that some of the Councillors raised questions over moneys expended on public roads, agriculture, and government officials They were trying to avoid the increase on tax. There were some ways by which the treasury was being drained from which the Basuto derived no benefit. There was money paid to the officials who were studying Sesuto for the reason of encouraging them. There have been questions asked why the Basuto were not similarly encouraged for studying English. The other money was that paid for the education of the sons of the government officials. That was going to be the chief grievance of the Basuto because such money was withdrawn in case of their children. The action of the government in this respect reminds me of the words which are found in the Holy Scriptures: "from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath." He referred to the Native uniform taxation and the Native Developement fund of the Union and pointed out that the policy of the Union as regards Natives was very encouraging but Basutoland instead of taking the lead was lacking behind. I heard the reply given to Cr. Chokobane that the Council would not be consulted in expending the education fund Such councils as this in the Union have power to raise revenue and expend it. It is true education is a good thing and it could not be obtained without sweating for it. According to the customs of the civilized nations the rich pay more tax than the paupers though there are no paupers in Basutoland. He feared his words would be offensive to the rich, namely the chiefs. He agreed with Chief Leloko that a wheel tax should be imposed According to the census of 1921 if each wheel was charged 2/6, the sum of £500 would be obtained He remarked that at least the people did not get any share of customs and suggested that at least one eighth of this tax be ear-marked for education In that way they would get £9,600 There was a tax which he claimed as a purely native tax, this was the ¼d. duty on wool. He suggested that the duty be raised from ¼d. to ½d. and that one half of this be alloted to education, thus they would get £6000. It was quite clear that from these taxes they would get more money than they would get by making a 2/- levy and no pain would be felt in paying the money.

After several members had expressed their sympatny with the proposal for providing for the Education fund, and taking exception to the increase of two shillings on hut tax, Chief Maknaola said they had carefully considered the proposition placed before them for discussion and their considered advice thereof, personally, he felt that Chief Sekhonyana had struck the nail on the head when he proposed the postponement of the debate until next session. They lived education, but consultation was the best principle He asked that they should be given time to think the matter over. But as it appeared that that request of theirs was not going to be conceded, he recalled to his memory the previous incident when the increase of 5/- on hut-tax was proposed that their views were ignored and the increase was made notwithstanding their opposition to it He therefore wished the matter to be placed in the hands of the Committee, for it to see how it would reconcile the different views expressed by the Council.

The Paramount Chief said they acknowledged the message of the High Commissioner that they should discuss the proposal on education. All councillors are agreed that education was essential but said there were many ways of raising money.

Turning to the Resident Commissioner he said the matter had been carefully discussed. He wished His Honour would see that the Councillors do not use their names as their means of excuse to the people for enactment of the law. The matter was discussed but no conclusion was arrived at. Was it not therefore reasonable that the matter should be left over, so that the Councillors could have time enough to think over it. His Honour heard their speeches although they accounted for nothing. He begged His Honour to concede their request.

The Resident Commissioner said it was true it was difficult to decide the matter when the opinions of the Councillors were so divided. There was so much said on the matter that he did not know where to begin and where to end. He said, all they had spoken would be forwarded to the High Commissioner What was proposed was meant for the good of the Basuto children. He thanked the councillors for the good spirit which they evinced when they discussed the matter although they differed on points.

The request of the Paramount Chief would be forwarded together with the proceedings to the High Commissioner.

Race Problem—1925

Africa.

THE SIERRA LEONEANS AND THEIR LAND.—XXI.

[By Captain F. W. Butt-Thompson.—Copyright.]

(*Continued from page 170, February 28th.*)

The Crown Colony made rapid progress in acreage and inhabitants. Wards and parishes were established, laws were passed for the government of the community, land was divided and secured by registration, taxation was introduced to help meet the cost of maintenance, troops were provided for its protection, treaties were entered into with the surrounding Natives for the benefit of trade, and all the machinery of a wise and paternal government was, not without difficulty, set in action to promote its advancement.

West Africa

To the peninsula of Sierra Leone had been added, in 1818, the Isles de Los, about 75 miles north of Freetown, consisting of Factory, Crawfords, Jamara, Whites and Coral islands, by treaty between Governor McCarthy and Munga Demba, King of the Bago country, and his Chieftains.

3-14-25

In 1820, the Banana Islands, lying off the southern promontory of the peninsula, and about 30 miles from Freetown, were ceded by treaty between Governor McCarthy and Pa London and Thomas Caulker. In 1824, Bunce, Tasso, Tombo, and all the other islands in the river, were ceded by Bai Mauro, King of the North Bulloms. The fort has since become a picturesque ruin, and the little graveyard, with its mossy stones, is almost hidden by encroaching undergrowth.

Turner's Peninsula, in the Sherbro country, was the next addition, the Governor of that name entering into a treaty with the Chiefs of that land, in 1825, by which the territory between the southern bank of the Camaranca river and the town of Camala, and about 120 miles in length, was ceded to the Crown. This gave the Colony upwards of 5,000 additional square miles, fertile and well-watered, with a vast increase of population. The inhabitants were made British subjects, and the merchants of Freetown found amongst them new markets. Soon settlers were migrating there, and sharing the profits of the increasing trade in ivory, camwood, palm-oil, and rice. The district has long been the home of the Sherbro-Bulloms, the Krims, and the Veis. The last-named are remarkable among African races as the possessors of an indigenous form of writing, invented by one of their own people, and bearing no resemblance to Roman or Arabic script. The inventor was Momodu Doalu, born early in the nineteenth century, and died about 1850. He collected all the sounds in the language and assigned characters to them, 160 in all, mostly syllabic. Since Doalu's death, some of the characters have undergone modifications, but it remains substantially as he invented it, and is remarkable evidence of his intelligence.

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Embassies now began to arrive in Freetown from other tribes. The King of Futah Djallon sent his nephew, and Bokari, Chief of Tamba, near Senegal, came also, to speak of the advantages to be gained by regular trading with the Foulah nation, and afterwards, representatives settled in the town, bringing with them new ideas in agriculture, and new trades. Another island, that of Bulama, which had seen the ill-fated attempt at a British Colony under Dalrymple, and some adjacent islets, came under the Crown in 1827, and remained part of the Colony for over 40 years, in 1870 being given up to the Portuguese.

The district known as Kafu-Bullom, that ran along the Atlantic coast from the Scarcies to the Sierra Leone, was ceded in 1827, but the treaty was not ratified by the Home authorities.

TACKLING TANGANYIKA'S LABOUR PROBLEMS.

United Planters' Association Projected.

Exclusive to "East Africa."

Dar-es-Salaam, January 9, 1925.

If the problems of Tanganyika in regard to Native labour are not yet as acute as those of Uganda and Kenya, they are very similar, and this Territory has the advantage—if it cares to profit by them—of the lessons learnt by its neighbours from bitter experience.

East Africa

Tanganyika is beginning to think of tackling the labour problem seriously, and steps are now being taken towards the formation, on the one hand, of a "United Planters' Association," and, on the other the creation of a Central (Government) Labour Board. It is hoped that both bodies may work together to secure the best possible supply of Native labour, to regulate wages, and to co-ordinate efforts at recruiting, housing, &c. These efforts seem to be following the lines adopted for Uganda (a description of which was given in "East Africa" of November 27).

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Let us look at the matter from the standpoint of labour for European plantations. The sisal estates, 80 per cent. of which are on the coast, are almost entirely dependent on labour from districts in the interior. Hitherto the supply has been more or less maintained by a fairly steady influx of Natives voluntarily making their way in search of work to Tanga, Pangani, Lushoto and Lindi, from the districts of Tabora (Wanwamyezi), Kondoa Irangi (Wanyaturu), and Songea (Wassangu). This movement began and was fostered in German days by a very thorough organization. It is still a tradition that the Natives of the districts mentioned necessarily go to the coast "to seek their Government tax."

Recruiting Difficulties.

Since the British occupation a few of the more energetic planters on the coast have from time to time sent recruiters up-country, but owing to abuses—for which the planters deny all liability—interdistrict recruiting of labour was suddenly stopped entirely by Government in 1920. When such recruiting was subsequently restarted, permission was subject to such impractical restrictions, that little or nothing could be done. Moreover, it was undoubtedly opposed by reactionary district officers, who, of course, have the private ear of the chiefs. In consequence, the task of procuring labour through this channel became a costly and a heart-breaking business

The coffee planters of Arusha and Kilimanjaro draw a fair but unsatisfactory supply of labour from the local tribes. A certain amount of recruiting from the fields above-mentioned was, and still is, done for the Kilimanjaro and Meru regions. But—as in the case of the sisal estates—this is *individual* and spasmodic.

As for the cotton planters, in Morogoro especially, these are situated more fortunately, being nearer the sources of supply. The sudden interest taken in cotton cultivation during the past two or three years has, however, now given the cotton planters of Kilosa, Mwanza and Lindi furiously to think.

A proper Labour Law was for long badly needed, though in Tanganyika there was no need to go far afield for a model, as the old German labour legislation would have served well as a basis. Nevertheless, nearly two years more passed until the present Masters and Servants Ordinance took shape. It is current belief that the Colonial Office, under strong missionary pressure, was responsible for this delay. Be that as it may, the present Ordinance did finally come into force in January, 1924. Certain modifications in its conditions are necessary, but on the whole it protects the Native and gives the planter a fair deal.

Scope of the U.P.A.

This brings the history of labour in Tanganyika up to date. What of the present?

Well, the different Planters' Associations throughout the Territory are trying to "get together." They are being urged to amalgamate by the Tanga Planters' Association, the oldest in the country, whose energetic secretary, Major Lead, is now engaged in a tour of the planting districts, sounding the various interests concerned as to the feasibility of founding a limited liability company.

The main object of such a body is to promote a Labour Recruiting Bureau. The company, it is proposed, should have a capital of £20,000, half to be paid up now; if that be forthcoming, I have good reason to believe that the banks have unofficially guaranteed the remainder. Reckoning that there are 250 white planters in the country, the capital should be forthcoming if each pays up £20.

The United Planters' Association would have a manager and assistants, their task being to recruit labour and place it at the disposal of planters. In addition, the U.P.A., being a united body, would be able, when the time comes, to elect a representative to the Legislative Council to watch its members' interests and generally to approach Government on all matters affecting the settler community.

It is interesting to record that to check "crimping" of labour and to keep track of the movement of Natives on estates, the Tanganyika United Planters' Association proposes a pass-book system with photographs of the labourer. It may be a trifle expensive, but it seems to be the only way to check their wanderings under all sorts of assumed names.

Obligations of the Native.

If the recruiting scheme has the active support of Government, there is much to be said for the above proposals.

In the first place it will eliminate individualistic efforts at recruiting, which are in the main wasteful, and in the past have often brought discredit unjustly on the planting community as a whole.

Two things are, in the opinion of many, of paramount importance. One is that labour contracts shall be for one year, and not, as at present, for six months only. Native labourers must be taught the obligation, obedience being enforced if necessary, of rendering an adequate amount of work per week, instead of two or three days at his own sweet will. At present the contract is one-sided. The planter pays a considerable sum to obtain his labour, provides decent housing, food, wages and medical attention. But, during the period of his six months' contract, the man renders nothing like 150 days' work. More often

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...not, he turns out for 80 or 100 days' work only. Improvement is obviously necessary.

Government Labour Board.

From the point of view of Government, the steps taken so far have been the creation of a Central Government Labour Board, and the promise that a Government Labour Commissioner will be provided, as soon as the planters have set *their* house in order. The Board mentioned, it is understood, acts in a purely advisory capacity, and merely as regards wages. It consists of the Hon. the Treasurer, the General Manager of Railways, and the Director of Public Works.

In conclusion, it should not be forgotten that the East African Commission recently reported strongly in favour of a loan being floated for development in Tanganyika, starting on the Tabora-Mwanza line.

When this loan is available—as we are convinced it will be in the not too distant future—the demands of Government for labour will further greatly increase.

The German Government refused to alienate any more land for white settlement in the colony, and the British Government has more than once proclaimed that it is determined to follow the same policy.

It is, then, apparent that the labour supply of Tanganyika will have reached its maximum limit when the white settlers' estates are all fully developed. In the meanwhile, the demand for labour to carry out public works will continue to grow, and the sisal and cotton planter may be hard pressed in time to come to find the Native workers he requires.

[EDITORIAL NOTE: The local East African Press and general public had practically no knowledge of the subject matter of this article at the time of its dispatch from Dar-es-Salaam. We are indebted to a special correspondent for this exclusive information.]

ACADEMIC SUCCESS OF TANGANYIKA-BORN STUDENT.

MANY Tanganyikans and other East Africans have pleasant memories of the Rev. T. B. R. Westgate the tall and stalwart C.M.S. padre, who, when a prisoner in German hands, knew how to stand up for himself and his fellows. They will be interested to learn that his son, Wilfred, born in East Africa, has been awarded the Rhodes Scholarship for the University of Manitoba.

It is not surprising to find—as we do from the columns of the *Manitoban*—that the son of so athletic a father has distinguished himself in Rugby, tennis, shooting, hockey, rowing and track racing.

Scholastically his record is excellent. Specialising in classics, he took the scholarship in Greek in his third year, carrying off the gold medal in that language when receiving his B.A. degree. He was chosen by acclamation to be Valedictorian for the year 1924 at St. John's College, but illness prevented his accepting the honour. After graduating he was granted a Fellowship in Trinity College, Toronto, where he has been doing post-graduate work. He will enter Balliol College, Oxford, in the autumn of this year.

We congratulate Mr. Westgate on his successes and shall watch his career with interest. While he is at Oxford he will have at St. John's, Cambridge, a Kenya-born colleague in Mr. L. S. B. Leakey, who has just returned to England after taking part in the British Museum's expedition to the Tanganyika Territory to unearth dinosaur remains.

Native Chiefs and Headmen.

[By S. M. B. Nowana.]

[*Continued.*]

Native Chiefs and Village Headmen are amongst those of our National leaders who carry on their shoulders the heavy burden of responsibility in keeping the peace of millions of His Majesty's black subjects who are living under abnormal conditions with no outlet to ventilate their feelings, needs and aspirations in the administration of their own affairs. No sensible person knowing their circumstances as I do, envies their predicament. Native and Europeans who know what I am talking about will agree with me that to be a Native Chief or Village Headman nowadays is to be the greatest fool in the land. Domestic servants, whether they be how illiterate they are paid the nearest figure to a living wage; but with the Government it is not so, these hard working Native heads are paid the paltry sum of ten shillings 10/- per month one tenth of an illiterate Native policeman's salary. But still these people are impudently called government servants; they collect all the government taxes in their respective divisions; they take charge of the unoccupied Crown lands and grazing fields; they are the eye of the government over all lands given to Natives for tilling purposes; more and above these they are charged with the great responsibility of controlling the hostile temper of a discontented people against the government as represented by its political officers One would think that the honour of being a Native chief carries with it a good remuneration, hai kona! They are paid the wage of the smallest *Pikanini* in the domestic service. One of the headmen, after relating to me the sad story of their daily life concluded by saying "Just imagine, nkosi yam, to how great an extent the man's energies and talents, character and ability were being wasted for a small allowance of living. How can a man loyally assist and support a native administration whose wobbling policy is specifically designed to work against the best interests of his people?" I agree that it was most unfortunate that the government should give them unsympathetic European officers. At another native kraal where I chanced to visit and where a petty nativechief is ruling, I was informed by his right hand man that when ever government officials come to their kraal, the chief after the Indaba generally killed a sheep or goat as a mark of courtesy and respect and went to the nearest general dealer store for groceries of all description to give the officer and his native police a good dinner. If this was not done the officer and his satellites always feel that they have been treated with contemely and scorn. I asked if he had any idea what the chief was paid by the goverament for his good services. Ten shillings a month, he retorted, I asked one head man if he did anything when government officials visited his kraal, he replied yes, "when we have an Indaba for the whole day I always kill a sheep for the officers of the Government. But strange to say when we are called to meet government officers in town we have to pay for food and accomodation and also stable charges for our horses. As we are required to go to King William's Town every Friday these charges are too heavy for some of us." The position of native chiefs and headmen has, since the occupation and the advent of Union changed one all—important feature. He is no longer subject to the influence of the public opinion of others of his kind, nor has he to trim his sails and to modify his actions accordingly. The native chief or headman is securely seated on his throne by a power operating from afar and quite outside all local influence. This is by no means a good thing for him or for his people and, unless the disadvantage can be made good in other directions, must operate as a drag on the moral advancement of the chief and his subject. Take for instance the case of the village headman of Mgqwakwabe who was removed from his position for certain accusations; the reader will find that the natives as well as their chiefs and headmen have a genuine case against the treatment meted out to them by European officials whose policy is: "Prestige of the whiteman must be maintained."

Drought Distress Among Natives.

Few people can realise from a distance the serious suffering obtaining among the Natives in the Eastern section of the Cape Province between the Kei and Fish Rivers.

Except for a few favoured spots along the sea-coast and on certain mountain ridges, the last big and beneficial rains here fell about July 1923, and the scattered showers that have now and then been experienced have never truly broken the drought for eighteen months. Along the railway from Cookhouse to King William's Town even a careless observer cannot fail to note that the environs of Adelaide, Fort Beaufort, Alice, Middledrift and Qanda form a pathetic scene with the withered mealies and absolutely parched grass.

The losses in Native stock have been appalling, being in many districts, who normally buys less than fifty cattle a month, actually took in two thousand in a single month from native chiefs and headmen alone in the occupation and the present drought to equal the prevalent distress we note to suggest that the Department should send out motors ploughing tractors with appropriate seeds to help the fallow fields of those who have lost their stock and will now no longer accept the Native charging the nominal sum of two shillings per acre.

Stark famine is stalking in the rural locations and many poor families daily go footless because even the long-enduring traders exhibited praiseworthy sympathy who have associated Native cattle for the purchase of grain. Some time ago a Native woman actually fell of maize on two ve-months' credit our people dead in the Alice market of sheer and secondly, as at Keiskama Hoek, in days to needy and help then by charity pure and simple. Starvation.

2-7-24

...ni not, he turns out for 80 or 100 days' work only. Improvement is obviously necessary.

Government Labour Board.

From the point of view of Government, the steps taken so far have been the creation of a Central Government Labour Board, and the promise that a Government Labour Commissioner will be provided as soon as the planters have set *their* house in order. The Board mentioned, it is understood, acts in a purely advisory capacity, and merely as regards wages. It consists of the Hon. the Treasurer, the General Manager of Railways, and the Director of Public Works.

In conclusion, it should not be forgotten that the East African Commission recently reported strongly in favour of a loan being floated for development in Tanganyika, starting on the Tabora-Mwanza line. When this loan is available—as we are convinced it will be in the not too distant future—the demands of Government for labour will further greatly increase.

The German Government refused to alienate any more land for white settlement in the colony, and the British Government has more than once proclaimed that it is determined to follow the same policy.

It is, then, apparent that the labour supply of Tanganyika will have reached its maximum limit when the white settlers' estates are all fully developed. In the meanwhile, the demand for labour to carry out public works will continue to grow, and the sisal and cotton planter may be hard pressed in time to come to find the Native workers he requires.

[EDITORIAL NOTE: The local East African Press and general public had practically no knowledge of the subject matter of this article at the time of its dispatch from Dar-es-Salaam. We are indebted to a special correspondent for this exclusive information.]

ACADEMIC SUCCESS OF TANGANYIKA-BORN STUDENT.

MANY Tanganyikans and other East Africans have pleasant memories of the Rev. T. B. R. Westgate the tall and stalwart C.M.S. padre, who, when a prisoner in German hands, knew how to stand up for himself and his fellows. They will be interested to learn that his son, Wilfred, born in East Africa, has been awarded the Rhodes Scholarship for the University of Manitoba.

It is not surprising to find—as we do from the columns of the *Manitoban*—that the son of so athletic a father has distinguished himself in Rugby, tennis, shooting, hockey, rowing and track racing. Scholastically his record is excellent. Specialising in classics, he took the scholarship in Greek in his third year, carrying off the gold medal in that language when receiving his B.A. degree. He was chosen by acclamation to be Valedictorian for the year 1924 at St. John's College, but illness prevented his accepting the honour. After graduating he was granted a Fellowship in Trinity College, Toronto, where he has been doing post-graduate work. He will enter Balliol College, Oxford, in the autumn of this year.

We congratulate Mr. Westgate on his successes and shall watch his career with interest. While he is at Oxford he will have at St. John's, Cambridge, a Kenya-born colleague in Mr. L. S. B. Leakey, who has just returned to England after taking part in the British Museum's expedition to the Tanganyika Territory to unearth dinosaur remains.

Native Chiefs and Headmen.

[By S. M. B. Ncwana.]

[*Continued.*]

Native Chiefs and Village Headmen are among those of our National leaders who carry on their shoulders the heavy burden of responsibility in keeping the peace of millions of His Majesty's black subjects who are living under abnormal conditions with no outlet to ventilate their feelings, needs and aspirations in the administration of their own affairs. No sensible person knowing their circumstances as I do, envies their predicament. Native and Europeans who know what I am talking about will agree with me that to be a Native Chief or Village Headman nowadays is to be the greatest fool in the land. Domestic servants, whether they be illiterate they are paid the nearest figure to a living wage; but with the Government it is not so, these hard working Native heads are paid the paltry sum of ten shillings 10/- per month one tenth of an illiterate Native policeman's salary. But still these people are impudently called government servants; they collect all the government taxes in their respective divisions; they take charge of the unoccupied Crown lands and grazing fields; they are the eye of the government over all lands given to Natives for tilling purposes; more and above these they are charged with the great responsibility of controlling the hostile temper of a discontented people against the government as represented by its political officers One would think that the honour of being a Native chief carries with it a good remuneration, hai kona! They are paid the wage of the smallest *Pikanini* in the domestic service.

One of the headmen, after relating to me the sad story of their daily life concluded by saying "Just imagine, nkosi yam, to how great an extent the man's energies and talents, character and ability were being wasted for a small allowance of living. How can a man loyally assist and support a native administration whose wobbling policy is specifically designed to work against the best interests of his people?" I agree that it was most unfortunate that the government should give them unsympathetic European officers. At another native kraal where I chanced to visit and where a petty nativechief is ruling, I was informed by his right hand man that when ever government officials come to their kraal, the chief after the Indaba generally killed a sheep or goat as a mark of courtesy and respect and went to the nearest general dealer store for groceries of all description to give the officer and his native police a good dinner. If this was not done the officer and his satellites always feel that they have been treated with contempt and scorn. I asked if he had any idea what the chief was paid by the government for his good services. Ten shillings a month, he retorted, I asked one headman if he did anything when government officials visited his kraal, he replied yes, "when we have an Indaba for the whole day I always kill a sheep for the officers of the Government. But strange to say when we are called to meet government officers in town we have to pay for food and accomodation and also stable charges for our horses. As we are required to go to King William's Town every Friday these charges are too heavy for some of us." The position of native chiefs and headmen has, since the occupation and the advent of Union changed one all—important fea-

ture. He is no longer subject to the influence of the public opinion of others of his kind, nor has he to trim his sails and to modify his actions accordingly. The native chief or headman is securely seated on his throne by a power operating from afar and quite outside all local influence. This is by no means a good thing for him or for his people and, unless the disadvantage can be made good in other directions, must operate as a drag on the moral advancement of the chief and his subject. Take for instance the case of the village headman of Mgqwashe who was removed from his position for certain accusations; the reader will find that the natives as well as their chiefs and headmen have a genuine case against the treatment meted out to them by European officials whose policy is: "Prestige of the whiteman must be maintained."

Drought Distress Among Natives.

Few people can realise from a distance the serious sufferings obtaining among the Natives in the Eastern section of the Cape Province between the Kei and Fish Rivers.

Except for a few favoured spots along the sea-coast and on certain mountain ridges, the last big and beneficial rains here fell about July 1923, and the scattered showers that have now and then been experienced have never truly broken the drought for eighteen months. Along the railway from Cookhouse to King William's Town even a careless observer cannot fail to note that the environs of Adelaide, Fort Beaufort, Alice, Middledrift and Qanda form a pathetic scene with their withered mealies and absolutely parched grass. 2-7-24

Stark famine is stalking in the land with thankfulness that the magistrates in the congested areas stors with appropriate seeds to even the long-enduring traders exhibited praiseworthy sympathy who have lost their stock and will now no longer accept the efforts to alleviate the present distress. We would suggest that the Department of Agriculture could help themselves emaciated Native cattle for the nominal sum of two ago a Native woman actually fell of maize on two ve-months' credit our people will purchase of grain. Some timeply food, first, as at Alice, in bags Real help could be thus given, for dead in the Alice market of sheer and secondly, as at Keiskama in being helped to help themselves starvation. Hoek, in doles to needy and help. than by charity pure and simple.

Race Problem — 1925.

Africa

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Mr. Hastings dwells, sensibly enough, on the importance of continuity in the location of official personnel; on the fascination, not to speak of the importance, of studying Nigeria's numerous races, which differ so markedly from one another (he repeats some characteristics on page 155); on the endless patience of the people; on the joys of hunting; on the abounding hospitality of his fellow-Europeans; on the splendid work awaiting the political officer who will study the African languages, and, far more important, study and try to understand the Nigerian peoples. He doubts, as we doubt, the wisdom of those who pretend to make light of the effects of the Nigerian climate, and he bears testimony, which all intelligent observers must endorse, to the genuine efforts of the overwhelming majority of men in the Public Service to help the country and the people.

The book, the illustrations in which are in keeping with the text—and that is to say modest, useful, informative—is dedicated to Sir Hugh Clifford, "as a tribute to his wide experience." That remarkable statesman, veteran in service, youthful in heart, would, we are certain, salute the spirit of "Nigerian Days" as the spirit he would fain have in every branch of His Majesty's service overseas.

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Coming to the consideration of present-day conditions, we are confronted by the fact that the acceleration of transport has incalculably altered the face of the peoples. "Four centuries ago the White race had secured nearly all Europe, but the Coloured races ruled the rest of the world . . . Even at the beginning of the last century, only a small part of North America and a few small settlements in Africa and Asia were occupied by the Whites. During the last century, and especially since the development of steam navigation, after 1840, the whole of America, all Africa except Abyssinia and Liberia, all Australia, and all Asia with the exception of China, Japan, and Siam, have fallen under European control." Professor Gregory points out, after making this statement, that in the present century "European influence has suffered extensive reductions, both in Asia and Africa," and not only has the sphere of European influence decreased, but the White races are increasing at a relatively lower rate than the Coloured. Unprecedented as the increase in the numbers of the White races has been during the last 50 years, the increase in the numbers of the Coloured peoples has been greater. Further, the prestige of the White race has to some extent, and in some instances, been lowered by its own beneficent rule; the imparting of Western education to Native races (coming to be regarded as an act of doubtful wisdom) has raised a false issue. These points constitute what Professor Gregory means by the "menace of colour," a phrase liable to misinterpretation, but expressing the possible danger of the swamping of one form of civilisation by another.

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But there is a reverse side to this rose-coloured forecast. Europe may have undertaken tasks beyond its power, like Portugal in the 16th century. Over-taxed by the maintenance of her Colonial empire, with her home-lands falling out of cultivation, Portugal introduced African labour to till the derelict farms, and the dilution of the Portuguese by this alien blood "is often regarded as one of the main causes in the fall of Portugal from its former political, scientific, and intellectual pre-eminence." "Has Europe," asks Professor Gregory, "been led into the same disastrous error of undertaking the administration of larger areas than it has the *personnel* to maintain?" Professor Gregory here raises an issue brought forward by West Africa, namely, whether a great deal of the European *settlement* in semi-tropical countries such as East Africa is not in an Imperial sense folly, and the waste of human material badly needed in parts of the Empire natural to the European race? It is interesting to see that West Africa, which was denounced in East African quarters for so commenting, is not alone in its view Professor Gregory's book is of profound interest.

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The Prince of Wales is in Africa. Every day glowing press dispatches relate his experiences on the "Dark continent." From Cape Town, the most highly civilized center south of the equator, along the Zambezi, across blistering deserts, into treacherous jungles, reeking with savage beasts and savage humans, Wales, descendant of a long line of English rulers, has traveled. And through it all he has been received with open arms.

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Native girls, who have not learned the art of sham and mimicry of that which they are not, have done their best to entertain the prince, since he is their guest. In some cases he has accepted their overtures with good manners; in many cases he has rebuffed them with sneers when his Anglo-Saxon blood surged to the fore and demanded attention.

Somewhere on the west coast of Africa is Dahomey, a remnant of a once powerful kingdom, whose kings ruled wisely and well until the ancestors of the Prince of Wales decided that they must have more room for their culture, and so the French, fearing British domination in Africa, took charge of Dahomey.

In America—Chicago, to be exact—is, at this time, one of the most illustrious descendants of Dahoman kings—Prince Kojo Tovalou-Houenou—a student, a scholar and a gentleman. This prince, unlike the Prince of Wales, is devoting his life to the betterment of humanity. He came to our country,

land of the oppressed. ung worth while information for use in his work. He came unprotected, knowing that even in police cell, and then being dragged as an unprotected, bruised and sore from a savage beating administered by civilized guardians of the there are no savages, in America, where there bodyguards are unnecessary. Being an African by birth and knowing that even in Africa courtesy is extended to strangers, ordinary felon into night court, he is reflecting upon the difference between a civilized necessary. Being an peace; humiliated at being kicked into a reason to expect at Prince Kojo had every reason to expect at least that in the greatest of all republics, country and one which makes no pretense

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at civilization. He knows now just now "free" he, as well as 12,000,000 others, are in this land of the free.

He reflects upon the parallel positions of himself and the Prince of Wales. Here he is beaten, cuffed, because he entered a cafe in company with an American woman—a white woman—who chose his society because she recognized no color bar where she sought intellect. In Africa, the Prince of Wales, a pleasant fellow, but a nonentity among thinkers, is received as befits a royal guest. If his attitude towards native girls disturbs the men they conceal their perturbation because he, Wales, is a stranger on their shores.

Wales is in Africa—Dahomey in is America; which of the two places has demonstrated that principle of true fraternity of which we Americans boast so loudly? Which of the two countries has shown a beautiful example of hypocrisy? And which of the countries should begin to apply the dishrag to the inside of the cup? Let supercivilized Nordics answer these questions truthfully, if they can.

Dear Sir,—I beg respectfully to forward you herewith, copy of a pamphlet of "Further Correspondence relating to the Second Session of the National Congress of British West Africa, held at Freetown, Sierra Leone, Jan.-Feb. 1923."

2. I am sure your readers will be highly interested in the range of subjects which the Correspondence covers. I should therefore be greatly obliged to you, on behalf of Congress, for an early publication thereof, in your valuable Journal.

Gold Coast Leader 23 2 24

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Saml. Richd. Wood.
General Secretary.

The Editor,
The "Gold Coast Leader".

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

Further Correspondence Relating to the Second Session of the National Congress of British West Africa. Held at Freetown, Sierra Leone, Jan.—Feb. 1923.

General Secretary's Office, Axim, Gold Coast, Aug. 1924.

To the National Congress of British West Africa.

Gentlemen,—To my infinite regret that circumstances prevent my attending the Sessions of the National Congress of British West Africa that are to be held in Sierra Leone during the month of January 1922 I am constrained to forward my Soul stirred Message of appeal and goodwill to my Countrymen assembled in conclave in the belief that my unavoidable absence will be a plea that my words will be patiently heard and receive serious consideration.

Men and Brethren. It is acceptable and accepted that it is the duty of everyone who is anxious and desirous of advancing the great cause of your Race that fearless outspoken frankness should be the keynote and that it is duty of both men and women who are qualified, to point out whatever they consider that disabilities, weakness or grave faults which may be within or surrounding the African on all sides and while pointing out these drawbacks to suggest and advance ideas for improvement, for upliftment and for safeguarding the rights of the people.

First and foremost the Watchword should be Unity. Unity amongst all Classes for maintaining progressive work for the public weal. Differences of opinion will always and must exist, but when these differences are dispassionately sifted the true Path will be clearly seen.

True Unity for laying a sound and lasting foundation can be best attained when the Mass of the People have had public matters clearly and in a simple way put before them after which they should be allowed to have a voice in appointing Leaders to act in their behalf; it is but right and logical that the consent of those whose benefit is sought, should be obtained beforehand so that none can gainsay or dispute the right of any chosen to be their Representative or Spokesman.

Having obtained due authority the elected from each Sphere should meet yearly in appointed Centres to discuss publicly and privately the general affairs pertaining to the four as well as the separate Colonies and in the interim each sphere should be in regular touch with their Electors in order to keep their interest.

The main theme that should be in the foreground is the question of Education in the fullest and widest sense—Elementary, Agricultural, Technical, Secondary and wherever possible Scientific; a special Committee might be appointed to investigate ancient and modern "Native Customs" with a view of improving and developing these sources of upliftment.

Elementary education should include the important factors of building the character of the young—including discipline, in the Home, the School, the Playground, for none can dispute stable character is the truest foundation on which success in life can be attained, and what is said of the individual character can be said of the Race. Education without good character is a danger, one without the other is not helpful while the two together are great—very great, power for good and advancement.

Training in agricultural pursuits is of the highest value whereby the maximum of production can be attained for the minimum of labour. Agriculture is the backbone of prosperity and its power permeates through channels that all may enjoy benefits. It is agriculture in West Africa that provides emoluments for all who receive money for their work—be it Lawyer, Clergyman, Doctor, Tinker, Tailor. Soldier, Beggarman and even "pocket money" for the school children without money the Merchants should not carry on their business. Agriculture means progress and prosperity for all Humanity the world over.

Technical education gives instruction how to apply the true and correct way of using the intelligent mind so as to direct the eye, the hand, in order to produce the best and lasting results.

Secondary education should as far as possible be given to those who are gifted with intelligent minds—for it is those who are so educated and have "sound character" to strengthen them, that are best fitted to read and guide the people.

Upon these basic lines rests the welfare and progress of the African. The details of each Head are so numerous that only by careful investigation and discussion that the many points can be made adaptable with great advantages to each Colony.

The question of Unity amongst Africans whether lighted or unlightened, has always been and is a very vexed and perplexing one, all efforts must be made by everyone on all sides to overcome destructive opposition.

It is well known that since the inception of the National Congress dissension has appeared in all the Colonies and especially in Nigeria where opposition to the composition of the Officers of the N.C.B.W.A. was vehemently proclaimed—fortunately, the opposition on the Gold Coast was later smoothed over and this applies also to Freetown in both of which places it is hoped that the smoothing process has healed the soreness but in Nigeria the opposition of the Officers seems as virile as ever and some remedy must be found, otherwise the wounds of our Country will remain open until such time as clear understanding is reached.

It is not without mixed feelings—(void of any offence that the following drastic remedy is suggested in order that an immediate stop should be put to all opposition: that the question be discussed by the Conference as to the advisability of each and every Officer of the N.C.B.W.A. tendering their resignation to expire in 3 or 4 months after the Sessions are over, during which time they and others (Candidates) can seek election or re-election at public meetings in the different Sphere—much can be said against this suggestion, but on contemplation it will be seen that there is much more advantage in its favour.

The problem confronting the African is large and there are so many angles from which they may be viewed; each lays stress on this or that point following the trend of their temperament. All contributions must be welcome for after all the Essential is the Spirit and Efforts so long these Virtues are present in the great work Success is bound to be achieved.

To-day it is most true that our Untutored Brethren cannot possibly imbibe the ideas we Literates are advancing but there is not the least doubt the existence of the N.C.B.W.A. has roused their Curiousity as well as interest and there must be at the back of the mind of the Untutored "Wonderment" bewildering and inexplicable?

The Congress can supply all such with the necessary food by putting before those who are able to think how they can help by making small Combinations in their own localities and discuss "Folk-Lore," the benefit of education, the careful training of children, the why's and wherefores of Evil and Innocent Superstition and what should be purified and developed "the terrible effects of deceit" etc etc if the N.C.B.W.A. can get behind them intelligent and thoughtful support of the Masses it is bound to become a Centre that will radiate an educative and unifying movement spreading outwards in never ending and widening circles so as to reach the most distant parts of the Hinterlands. The important thing is to get the untutored to think of a higher corporate life and its meaning; people from the Interiors should be invited to visit the coast towns on Missions of Observation and Enlightenment and if suitable guidance is bestowed to the Mission who can gainsay or appraise the assistance these Missions will render to the Race when they return to their Homes. There is not the least doubt some of the Intellectuals can learn much by visiting different parts of our Interiors and while they can "sow" many valuable "seeds" of example and advice—such as planning some system for establishing between Neighbours for exchanging thoughts and working of ideas that must benefit the Race; inculcating the spirit of Brotherhood, Charity and Goodwill and many other ideas that are likely to come across the minds of the thoughtful.

The National Congress of British West Africa have to-day the OPPORTUNITY as well as the PRIVILEGE of making History and many Prayers are offered that efforts during the Session now in slight, unlimited and manifold blessings will attend them.

God save our Empire King.

I am, Men and Brethren,
Your obedient servant,
(Sgd) Robt. Broadhurst

London N.W. 1.
12 Dec. 1922.

AFRICAN PROGRESS UNION.
23, Westbourne Park Road,
London, W. 2.
8. 1. 1923.

The Secretary,
National Congress of B.W.A.

Dear Sir,—We have great pleasure in informing you that the Committee of the African Progress Union have been fortunate in obtaining the consent of Mrs Adelaide Casely Hayford and Dr. C. Easmon to represent the Union at the Second Session of National Congress of British West Africa.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd) John Alcindor, President
Emma Smith, Secretary.

Race Problem—1925.

Africa.

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION'S REPORT.

We quote hereunder some of the references made in the Report of the East Africa Commission to the different territories visited.

KENYA.

THE problems of Kenya are inherent in the presence of the black, white and Asiatic races, the reconciliation of the white ideals of trusteeship of the Natives with self-interest, on the one hand, and, on the other, the responsibility which the Imperial and local Governments share to develop the natural resources of a sparsely peopled territory, which includes some of the richest agricultural soils in the world, mostly in districts where the elevation and climate make it possible for Europeans to reside permanently. We have to recognise the fact of European settlement, that an increasing number of colonists are being attracted to the Kenya Highlands yearly, and that their occupation has added greatly to the productivity of the country.

East Africa 5-9-25

Out of the European population of 10,000, about 1,000 males are enumerated as belonging to the Administration and local forces, 2,000 males are classed as settlers, 800 represent the commercial classes, 200 the professional classes, and about 90 come under the head of missions.

The Imperial Government has done much to encourage white settlement over a great part of the Kenya Highlands. Since the war, various schemes have been inaugurated to attract ex-soldier colonists by grants of land in defined areas in holdings varying from 160 to 5,000 acres. In one instance, namely, the British East Africa Disabled Officers' Colony, a fairly large tract of land was put at the disposal of men who had been partially disabled, and these men received financial assistance from the Imperial Government in the form of training grants in addition to a free grant of land.

We desire to emphasise the congestion at the Port of Mombasa and the urgent necessity for proceeding with all dispatch with the construction of new facilities to cope with the already remarkable increase in traffic, and the certain steady growth of exports for many years to come. We incline to the opinion that Mombasa Island, on which the present railway terminus stands, and upon which all exports and imports are handled, may need supplementing by wharves on the mainland.

Particularly interesting is the prospect of an export of dairy produce. In this connection, mention should be made of the proposed erection by the Government of cold storage wharves at Mombasa, and the provision of refrigerator cars on the railway, which will do much to foster this trade.

Maize Production and Export.

The co-operative idea seems to have become firmly established in Kenya, and co-operative effort is largely responsible for the significant increase in the export of maize. The development of maize production has also been greatly encouraged by the establishment of a flat rate of 1s. per bag of 200 lb. on the railways. Some idea of the growth of this crop is revealed by the following figures showing the acreage under European-grown maize during the last three years:—

1922	...	...	...	...	74,747 acres.
1923	...	...	...	...	99,764 ,,
1924	...	...	...	...	141,147 ,,

Maize is, in some ways, the most promising crop produced by the Colony. It can be grown by Natives as well as by Europeans, and on much of the land in the Highlands the yields are remarkable. We heard of one farm in the Trans-Nzoia where the yield in 1924 amounted to twenty bags per acre, while in the Kavirondo reserve we were informed of a yield of eighteen bags per acre. The average yield is high, considerably exceeding that of South Africa (eight bags per acre). Kenya is specialising in the production of a flat white maize (a kind of Hickory King).

The land in parts of the Highlands is a virgin loam, anything up to forty feet in depth, and so for some years high yields can be secured without manuring, but the day will come in Kenya, as in all other countries, when the advantages of virgin soil will disappear, and recourse will have to be had to rotation crops and manuring.

European and Native-grown Coffee.

Coffee is at present the most important crop and export of Kenya. It was first introduced by the Roman Catholic Fathers at Nairobi twenty years ago, and the original plants are still bearing. The yield per acre varies from about one-third ton to 1¼ tons, the variation depending upon soil, climate, elevation, and the method of cultivation. Over the greater part of coffee areas shade is necessary for the coffee bushes, although on some plantations coffee is being grown without it. As a rule shade trees are planted adjacent to the bushes, but quite recently a successful coffee planter in the Turbo area has tried the interesting experiment of supplying artificial shade. This, while it involves a capital outlay of about £12 per acre, is found to have so greatly increased the yield that the additional expenditure is made good in a year or two. It is clear that no uniformity of practice is possible in regard to the cultivation of coffee, coffee produced in the neighbourhood of Nairobi requiring very different treatment from that grown in the Trans-Nzoia area.

Kenya coffee realises nearly the highest price on the London market. This is due to the grading which is carried out by the coffee planters, and to its special flavour. There is, therefore, considerable anxiety among the European coffee planters lest the Natives should be encouraged to grow coffee, since it is feared that Native-grown coffee would lessen the confidence which the coffee buyers possess in the Kenya marks, and thus depreciate their value. But, more important still, they fear that it would lead to the introduction of coffee pests and ultimately to the virtual extinction of the industry. We are not convinced that the growing of *arabica* by Natives would have this effect, provided its cultivation is regulated by a coffee ordinance, and Native plantations are thoroughly controlled and inspected. But in view of the cost of such inspection, and the small demand at present by the Natives for such facilities, the matter is as yet one of academic and sentimental importance rather than of practical significance. This view is shared by the Director of Agriculture in Kenya.

Sisal Prospects.

In the year 1923 about 39,000 acres were planted with sisal, and there was a large increase in the year 1924. Sisal is essentially a poor soil crop, and can be grown where the annual rainfall does not exceed thirty inches, or even less. Every effort is being made to eliminate hand-labour in its cultivation, to improve the decorticating machinery and to reduce the amount of labour necessary in the preparation of hemp for market. The handling of sisal leaves before they reach the decorticator is a matter to which much attention is being given by some European owners so that this occupation may be made less attractive to the Natives.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

To the Editor of WEST AFRICA.

Sir,—I am directed respectfully to inform you that, for certain reasons, chiefly the impossibility of both the President and the Vice-President of the Congress leaving the Gold Coast, in May, the third session of the Congress, fixed for 17th May, at Bathurst, is postponed to a date to be announced in due time.

Your obedient Servant,
SAM. RICH. WOOD, General Secretary.

Axim, April 27th.

"SPORT IN SIERRA LEONE."

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Sir,—I have just read the paragraph headed "Sport in Sierra Leone" in your issue of to-day. I am not sure that it deserves a reply, because those who have had the privilege to serve in Sierra Leone are aware that a true statement of facts is not revealed by the contents of the paragraph. "Truth" is a widely-read journal, as is yours. The paragraph may be copied by other papers among whose readers may be intending competitors for service in Sierra Leone, upon whom the inaccurate statements may exercise a discouraging effect, with results not to be desired for the fascinating country in which I spent the best part of 20 years. It is to disabuse the minds of such readers, and other people interested in the Colony and Protectorate, that I venture to throw a little light on "Sport in Sierra Leone."

West Africa 5-9-25

As we have to cross the sea to reach the land of oil palm trees waving over sun, wind, and wave-kissed sandy shores, it may not be out of place if I refer, briefly, to sport on the water. There is everything in the sea awaiting the sporting fisherman, from the lordly tarpon down to the tiniest of the finny inhabitants of the deep; many known and, doubtless, some unknown to science. In a wave about to break against a setting sun I have seen the water so filled with fish that it seemed an impossibility to get through the wave without touching them. As I have never had the time to devote to the sport, but Shoals of small fish entering the rivers are marked above I have met men—black and white, all keen sportsmen—by excited king-fishers, while swift dashes here and there, over a quiet pipe and a drink in the brethren taking toll, mark the progress of the shoals below. I have seen a tremendous fish—I do not know its name as I have not seen it out of water—on a marauding expedition travelling at what appeared to me to be about 25 miles an hour, casting up a distinct wave as he hauled his doomed victim. I cannot boast of being the proud captor of a tarpon or of any of the bigger fish, likeness of one man in a rod and line in a dug-out canoe. The

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East Africa 23-5-25

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West Africa 30-5-25

As we have to cross the sea to reach the land of oil palm trees waving over sun, wind, and wave-kissed sandy shores, it may not be out of place if I refer, briefly, to sport on the water. There is everything in the sea awaiting the sporting fisherman, from the lordly tarpon down to the tiniest of the finny inhabitants of the deep; many known and, doubtless, some unknown to science. In a wave about to break against a setting sun I have seen the water so filled with fish that it seemed an impossi-

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oe, as big as, or bigger than, himself,
a rod and line in a dug-out canoe. The
an in particular floats across my mental

vision as I write; I met him by chance one day in the bush; we sat up until two a.m. talking of the manners and customs of the wondrous denizens of the water world; he was a great fisherman and a charming host; I hope I may meet him again.

Space available is limited, and I must not encroach on your good nature. I began this letter somewhat stuffily, which feeling soon gave place to a tolerable atmosphere of mellowness as memories of Sierra Leone and her peoples poured tumbling over one another into my mind's eye in their haste not to be forgotten. I must resist the temptation to record more in the matter of the sport of fishing and get on shore where it is less lonely, but none the less sociable or delightful, though in a different atmosphere.

The keen sportsman will not meet roaring lions and fearsome tigers; nor will he meet the humorous rhinoceros, but he can hunt (and, in turn, be hunted by) the elephant and the short-horned buffalo known on the Coast as the bush-cow; there are any number of antelope, the leopard, wart-hog, and the man-eating crocodile; in the shape of feathered game there are the bustard, guinea fowl, francolin, spur-winged geese, whistling teal, snipe, curlew, and pigeon. The elephant and the bush-cow can give most reasonable people sufficient of a thrill to satisfy them for a period. One famous hunter and most delightful of men was spoken of in the "Field" some years ago, if my memory serves me right, as having once shot a number of bush-cow in as many seconds, but the tale lost a little in its telling, for it omitted the charge of a wounded animal on the hunter with an empty gun in his hand, and only his presence of mind, to cast himself on one side as the animal neared its mark, saved his life. The bush-cow has been responsible for the death of more than one hunter in Sierra Leone. His elephant-hunting reminiscences were full of incident and interest. I do not know if he ever recorded his hunting life in Sierra Leone. He, also, was a fisherman. He has passed over to the Other Shore, but he is not forgotten.

From the elephant and the bush-cow let me drift on to the antelope. They are of all sizes and habits, from the bongo, situtunga and water-buck, down to dainty little creatures with soft eyes, and legs no thicker than a pencil. I have seen the watering-place at a riverside literally churned up with a number of animals which had passed over it during the night to drink. When after bush-cow, I have sat on an ant heap in the silence of the bush and watched fairy-like forms flitting quietly and swiftly by in the shadows of the evening on their way to water; at another place I have seen herds of cobus cob galloping across a plain for all the world like a regiment of cavalry; once, when after wart-hog, a stately bustard stalked out from the bush, and stalked back again!

I do not think that I need say much more. Hunting the leopard on a moonlight night is not devoid of excitement, nor is the investigation of a booming sound in unhabitated thick forest; it will make the hair sensitive and a cold shiver run down one's spine! But one must have time to enjoy the amenities of natural history in such a country. The satisfying thing to do is to go out for a leisurely whole year, adequately equipped for land and water, observe Native law and custom, and he will be a churly ingrate who could return after such a year without the happiest of happy memories of land and water in Sierra Leone.

I am sorry, I had entirely forgotten the last four lines of the quoted paragraph. You can take it from me that the games played in Sierra Leone are all British, and far from "tepid"; in the neighbourhood of the Equator, it would be passing strange if the owner of the shirt sticking to his back did not have a thirst, and more than passing strange if the traditional hospitality of Colonials had become a thing of the past.

Yours very truly,

Harrow. May 23rd. W. ADDISON.

TOGOLAND.

DIFFICULTY UPON DIFFICULTY.

BY KUE I.

Togoland has become a mandated territory. Since the inception there is nothing better seen to evince the successful movement, the peace and happiness of the people than incessant upheaval of difficulties. We are not ever-grumbling people and, neither do we choose to be. But we cannot help to say those things which directly touch our bones and sinews for, our vital interest is for the liberty, peace and progress of the people.

Discarding the promise of the first Commissaire of Togoland, "That French money of every kind will not be used in the Colony," because the trade of the Colony is not the trade of Togoland, but the trade of Gold Coast new French alloyed coins are introduced to replace the French money which not only prove a failure in the markets, but have wrought great havoc in the trade. This is following the introduction of the English alloyed coins but the English alloyed coin is guaranteed by the English Government, or by the British financial authorities in England, while that of the French is not secured by any body though, it is inscribed upon the three palm branches, "Territoires Sous Mandat, etc., la France Togo."

The merchant houses would not accept these coins in buying anything from them and, the reason is, they cannot exchange their goods for metal of no consequence. The result is, they lie in the safe useless. Have the commercial houses any desire for them? No, for there is no use for them. Then the estimation of the Commissaire is improper and it is now thought to establish money-changing offices all round for exchange of English money. In Lomè, this money is exchanged in the money-changing office for 96 francs, to the English £1. A small Bank is opened at Sakode, where the money is changed to the bush people for 86 francs to English £1. and words were sent to the Kotokalees and Kables etc., to speedily come for the exchange for soon the English money would be abolished and poor ignorant illiterates who could not distinguish which is which, rushed for the enterprise, giving their valuable English coins, white or red, for the worthless metal which is like giving away one's diamond for white stone. In Lomè, the franc is received from the hands of the native officials for -/3 and they are bound to give it away for they must live. In the bush no one dare to depreciate it, an attempt by any one will lead him to severe tight of rope and prison. Is this not difficulty upon difficulty? It is, because in Togoland now the business condition of the market is unsatisfactory. Foodstuffs difficult to procure and the ruin of the up-country markets entail in the losses of the Southern; and lo, we are not in the barter days to exchange goods for goods.

During the German regime, there was no difference between the German mark and the English shilling. Though Keta (Quittah) is Gold Coast Colony, yet it is German (Togoland) Colony in trade because Keta can never be separated from Lomé and the mark was freely used there (Keta and districts only) without difficulty.

We all believe in the manifestation of human happiness and progress; it was considered, by the act of the Great War, to replace the former administration, which was beyond human justice, by mandate. Togoland as one of those dark and unfortunate lands was also considered in the affair. We have all hoped in the League of Nations, and if the League of Nations cannot look into these affairs by having in one way or the other, control of mal-administration, the money question, etc., where then is our lot? All should not be left in the hands of the mandatory power. We would ask that all written things should not satisfy the cravings of the League of Nations as an advancement of the territory, but personal study of all questions should be added to that which is entrusted to the pen. One thing to all facts is, it is a pity that the League, has not secured this money, and if the League cannot secure the territory's money, nor do we think it is bearing all responsibilities, it cannot administer the territory itself on a scale similar to that of Saar. The Colony should be given to a power stable enough to carry its obligations through than to make everything wave in the sky. We hope the Permanent Mandates Commission is waking up and considering the affairs of the mandated territories seriously. For the present, in Togoland everything is a failure.

We therefore beg to recommend to the League of Nations, which is now our redeeming father, that for the betterment of the territory, (Togoland) we don't know of any other, a deputy should be appointed every two or three years to make personal investigation by meeting with our Chiefs and people to know their wants and griefs and to show them their obligatory duty and if this is done the League will then be able to have full knowledge of the people's desire and there will be understanding between the mandatory people and the mandatory power. A voice whispered of annexation, we would advise strongly the League, never to yield to this blunder. We hope this our suggestion will be considered as an important fact and that all the ignominious thought about the little of black man's idea will be abandoned and thrown aside.

Mozambique Co.'s Territory.

RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS.

Preparations for Handling Larger Traffic.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

Preparations are being made by the Rhodesian railways to deal with the considerable increase in the exports of agricultural produce from Southern Rhodesia by the Beira route that is expected during the next few months.

It is estimated that the maize exports from the colony will exceed 50,000 tons, and that the cotton exports of the two Rhodesias will total more than 5,000 tons, against 400 tons last year. The maize tonnage, if the estimated figure is reached, will also be much in excess of the 1924 traffic.

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vision as I write; I met him by chance one day in the bush; we sat up until two a.m. talking of the manners and customs of the wondrous denizens of the water world; he was a great fisherman and a charming host; I hope I may meet him again.

Space available is limited, and I must not encroach on your good nature. I began this letter somewhat stuffily, which feeling soon gave place to a tolerable atmosphere of mellowness as memories of Sierra Leone and her peoples poured tumbling over one another into my mind's eye in their haste not to be forgotten. I must resist the temptation to record more in the matter of the sport of fishing and get on shore where it is less lonely, but none the less sociable or delightful, though in a different atmosphere.

The keen sportsman will not meet roaring lions and fearsome tigers; nor will he meet the humorous rhinoceros, but he can hunt (and, in turn, be hunted by) the elephant and the short-horned buffalo known on the Coast as the bush-cow; there are any number of antelope, the leopard, wart-hog, and the man-eating crocodile; in the shape of feathered game there are the bustard, guinea fowl, francolin, spur-winged geese, whistling teal, snipe, curlew, and pigeon. The elephant and the bush-cow can give most reasonable people sufficient of a thrill to satisfy them for a period. One famous hunter and most delightful of men was spoken of in the "Field" some years ago, if my memory serves me right, as having once shot a number of bush-cow in as many seconds, but the tale lost a little in its telling, for it omitted the charge of a wounded animal on the hunter with an empty gun in his hand, and only his presence of mind, to cast himself on one side as the animal neared its mark, saved his life. The bush-cow has been responsible for the death of more than one hunter in Sierra Leone. His elephant-hunting reminiscences were full of incident and interest. I do not know if he ever recorded his hunting life in Sierra Leone. He, also, was a fisherman. He has passed over to the Other Shore, but he is not forgotten.

From the elephant and the bush-cow let me drift on to the antelope. They are of all sizes and habits, from the bongo, situtunga and water-buck, down to dainty little creatures with soft eyes, and legs no thicker than a pencil. I have seen the watering-place at a riverside literally churned up with a number of animals which had passed over it during the night to drink. When after bush-cow, I have sat on an ant heap in the silence of the bush and watched fairy-like forms flitting quietly and swiftly by in the shadows of the evening on their way to water; at another place I have seen herds of cobus cob galloping across a plain for all the world like a regiment of cavalry; once, when after wart-hog, a stately bustard stalked out from the bush, and stalked back again!

I do not think that I need say much more. Hunting the leopard on a moonlight night is not devoid of excitement, nor is the investigation of a booming sound in unhabitated thick forest; it will make the hair sensitive and a cold shiver run down one's spine! But one must have time to enjoy the amenities of natural history in such a country. The satisfying thing to do is to go out for a leisurely whole year, adequately equipped for land and water, observe Native law and custom, and he will be a churly ingrate who could return after such a year without the happiest of happy memories of land and water in Sierra Leone.

I am sorry, I had entirely forgotten the last four lines of the quoted paragraph. You can take it from me that the games played in Sierra Leone are all British, and far from "tepid"; in the neighbourhood of the Equator, it would be passing strange if the owner of the shirt sticking to his back did not have a thirst, and more than passing strange if the traditional hospitality of Colonials had become a thing of the past.

Yours very truly,

Harrow. May 23rd. W. ADDISON.

TOGOLAND.

DIFFICULTY UPON DIFFICULTY.

BY KUE I.

Togoland has become a mandated territory. Since the inception there is nothing better seen to evince the successful movement, the peace and happiness of the people than incessant upheaval of difficulties. We are not ever-grumbling people and, neither do we choose to be. But we cannot help to say those things which directly touch our bones and sinews for, our vital interest is for the liberty, peace and progress of the people.

Discarding the promise of the first Commissaire of Togoland, "That French money of every kind will not be used in the Colony," because the trade of the Colony is not the trade of Togoland, but the trade of Gold Coast new French alloyed coins are introduced to replace the French money which not only prove a failure in the markets, but have wrought great havoc in the trade. This is following the introduction of the English alloyed coins but the English alloyed coin is guaranteed by the English Government, or by the British financial authorities in England, while that of the French is not secured by any body though, it is inscribed upon the three palm branches, "Territoires Sous Mandat, etc. la France Togo."

The merchant houses would not accept these coins in buying anything from them and, the reason is, they cannot exchange their goods for metal of no consequence. The result is, they lie in the safe useless save the commercial houses any desire for them? No, for there is no use for them. Then the estimation of the Commissaire is improper and it is now thought to establish money-changing offices all round for exchange of English money. In Lomè, this money is exchanged in the money-changing office for 96 francs, to the English £1. A small Bank is opened at Sakode, where the money is changed to the bush people for 86 francs to English £1. and words were sent to the Kotokalees and Kables etc., to speedily come for the exchange for soon the English money would be abolished and poor ignorant illiterates who could not distinguish which is which, rushed for the enterprise, giving their valuable English coins, white or red, for the worthless metal which is like giving away one's diamond for white stone. In Lomè, the franc is received from the hands of the native officials for -/3 and they are bound to give it away for they must live. In the bush no one dare to depreciate it, an attempt by any one will lead him to severe tight of rope and prison. Is this not difficulty upon difficulty? It is, because in Togoland now the business condition of the market is unsatisfactory. Foodstuffs difficult to procure and the ruin of the up-country markets entail in the losses of the Southern; and lo, we are not in the barter days to exchange goods for goods.

During the German regime, there was no difference between the German mark and the English shilling. Though Keta (Quittah) is Gold Coast Colony, yet it is German (Togoland) Colony in trade because Keta can never be separated from Lomé and the mark was freely used there (Keta and districts only) without difficulty.

We all believe in the manifestation of human happiness and progress; it was considered, by the act of the Great War, to replace the former administration, which was beyond human justice, by mandate. Togoland as one of those dark and unfortunate lands was also considered in the affair. We have all hoped in the League of Nations, and if the League of Nations cannot look into these affairs by having in one way or the other, control of mal-administration, the money question, etc., where then is our lot? All should not be left in the hands of the mandatory power. We would ask that all written things should not satisfy the cravings of the League of Nations as an advancement of the territory, but personal study of all questions should be added to that which is entrusted to the pen. One thing to all facts is, it is a pity that the League, has not secured this money, and if the League cannot secure the territory's money, nor do we think it is bearing all responsibilities, it cannot administer the territory itself on a scale similar to that of Saar. The Colony should be given to a power stable enough to carry its obligations through than to make everything wave in the sky. We hope the Permanent Mandates Commission is waking up and considering the affairs of the mandated territories seriously. For the present, in Togoland everything is a failure.

We therefore beg to recommend to the League of Nations, which is now our redeeming father, that for the betterment of the territory, (Togoland) we don't know of any other, a deputy should be appointed every two or three years to make personal investigation by meeting with our Chiefs and people to know their wants and griefs and to show them their obligatory duty and if this is done the League will then be able to have full knowledge of the people's desire and there will be understanding between the mandatory people and the mandatory power. A voice whispered of annexation, we would advise strongly the League, never to yield to this blunder. We hope this our suggestion will be considered as an important fact and that all the ignominious thought about the little of black man's idea will be abandoned and thrown aside.

Mozambique Co.'s Territory.

RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS.

Preparations for Handling Larger Traffic.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

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Paragraph 16 reads as follows:—

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Race Problem—1925

Africa.

ADVENTURES OF THE "ROMAN STAR."

TWENTY MILLION SOUTH AFRICAN ORANGES.

CAUSE OF EXPLOSION STILL A MYSTERY.

(Special to "The African World.")

The much discussed "Roman Star," with her mammoth cargo of 20,000,000 South African oranges, arrived safely at Gravesend on Tuesday. The fruit is in excellent condition, and its appearance on the market at a time when there is a shortage of oranges should ensure a ready sale and good prices.

Story of a Remarkable Voyage.

Not for years has a boat been so discussed or aroused greater interest than the "Roman Star," whose fame has, of course, been achieved as the direct result of the seamen's strike, which is now happily at an end. She has certainly made history. One or two points about her voyage are worth recording. She is the first boat to be chartered for the sole purpose of transporting South African fruit to England, and her cargo of 100,000 cases, or twenty million oranges, is the largest fruit cargo ever sent to this country.

The experiment of chartering a steamer for fruit transport could not have been made at a more inopportune time, though, needless to say, the Fruit Exchange, who were responsible, had not the slightest idea that the country would be involved in a strike that was almost paralysing in its effect on the South African export trade. At one stage the shipment appeared to be doomed, which would have meant irreparable loss to fruit-growers throughout South Africa. Fortunately, special, though, no doubt, somewhat costly, arrangements were made with certain of the seamen, with the result that a crew was obtained and the "Roman Star" on September 9 steamed out of Table Bay, whereat there was much relief.

But the ship's troubles were by no means at an end as, when off Ushant, an explosion in the boiler-room, resulting in the death of a stoker and injury to two others, she was again held up. This necessitated putting in to Brest. The cause of the explosion is still a mystery, and has been the subject of thorough investigation. At first it was presumed that a detonator in the coal was responsible, but, as yet, nothing actually has been established. The Board of Trade will institute an inquiry in accordance with the usual custom in such cases.

Detectives on Board.

At Brest French detectives, in consultation with French engineers, thoroughly examined the wrecked portion of the machinery in an endeavour to discover whether any foreign explosive matter had precipitated the explosion.

Both the French and British experts and investigators, it is stated, believe that the accident was due to the bursting of a furred boiler-tube, and not to the presence of any bomb or infernal machine, as was suggested immediately after the mishap had caused the "Roman Star" to make for Brest.

Mr. Harlow, representing the Trade Commissioner was present when the "Roman Star" reached Gravesend, and throughout has been in the closest touch with the boat and every development connected with her. He also saw the fruit opened up and informed a representative of THE AFRICAN WORLD that the condition is highly satisfactory, and that there is every reason to anticipate a good market. Of the quantity he had seen (the whole cargo will not, of course, have been cleared till Saturday) the percentage of waste was very small, and did not exceed that experienced with previous shipments.

The vessel was chartered, it may be pointed out, in consequence of the growers finding at the end of June that they would require to ship 100,000 cases over and above the estimate of quantities for shipment that they had given in for July and August. This necessitated additional space being acquired.

An Interview with Messrs. T. J. Poupart, Ltd.

With the arrival in England of the s.s. "Roman Star," carrying a record consignment of over 100,000 cases of South African citrus, the limelight of public interest has been momentarily focussed on the South African fruit trade and the romance of its steady rise through many vicissitudes.

It was with a view to obtaining some information of the services given to the trade by one of the biggest British fruit-exporting firms that an AFRICAN WORLD representative paid a recent visit to Messrs. T. J. Poupart, Ltd., Covent Garden. Although Messrs. Poupart, as it happens, have a comparatively small consignment on the "Roman Star," yet their name is a household one in South African circles, and, indeed, they claim to handle greater quantities of South African fruit than any other importer. Moreover, in addition to their trade with the sub-continent and other parts of Africa, the firm may fairly claim to have world-wide business connections. No part of the world where fruit is grown escapes their notice, and by a unique system of distribution they are able to supply anyone in Europe as soon as fruit reaches London from any part of the globe.

Thirty Years of Progress.

Established in quite a small way in 1895 at Covent Garden by Mr. Poupart, who was joined later by Mr. W. Ravenhill, his present partner and co-director, the business has grown tremendously under the sound methods of these gentlemen, and now occupies a block of buildings, extending over a wide frontage, in Long Acre, adjoining Covent Garden.

The business necessities, in addition to shops and stands in Covent Garden, twelve warehouses, with a floor space of 16½ acres, through which there passes a weekly average of 70,000 packages.

In an interview with the writer with Mr. Ravenhill, discussion turned on the firm's dealings with the various African fruit-producing centres, and also on the position of the South African citrus and deciduous fruits. As compared with the supply from the South, said Mr. Ravenhill, other parts of Africa, including the islands, supply only a small proportion of the fruit received by the firm. From Tunis and Biskra desert dates are imported through an agent at Marseilles. From Tripoli also come oranges of the Jaffa variety. These are different both in size and taste from the South African products, which are more like the Mediterranean kind. In Tripoli, however, the industry is not a well-organised commercial proposition as in South Africa, the trees having grown up haphazardly in the course of time.

NATIVES' RIGHT PLACE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

White Producers' Best Customers of the Future.

"As things are to-day, competition between black and white will tend to increase. At present the European leads because of his superior ability, but it is a moot point whether or not the native's present inferiority is permanent. In any case, it is a fact that a certain percentage of the natives are above the lowest of the Europeans in intelligence and ability."

This important and significant statement was made by no less an authority than Dr. C. T. Loram, member of the Native Affairs Commission to the Economic and Wage Commission sitting at Johannesburg. Dr. Loram added that "while the European will apparently remain superior for many years to come, there will be an increase in the amount of 'overlapping.' The presence of a large number of natives is affecting, and is likely to affect still further, the wages paid to unskilled and semi-skilled Europeans. Industrial competition is the chief cause of race hatred. Until this is minimised the European will be unwilling to approve of native development. The atmosphere of fear, out of which may spring hasty and unjust action, will ever be present."

On the Land.

"The native is by nature primarily a pastoralist, and secondly an agriculturist," Dr. Loram pointed out. "He should, as far as possible, be kept on the land, where he will come less into competition with Europeans. To put him and keep him on the land we need adequate and suitable areas where he can own land on which to farm, direction of the native so that he can produce and dispose of his products, and satisfactory conditions of native labour on European farms.

"Under existing methods of cultivation the reserves already set aside for exclusive native occupation are inadequate. More than half the rural native population is living on European-owned farms, some from necessity and some from choice. Outside the native areas steps should be taken to prevent the exploitation of cheap native labour.

"The way to improve the position of white artisans in the towns," Dr. Loram stated, "may be to improve the position of black agriculturists in rural areas."

Dr. Loram also said that the native's earning power under an improved system, with any competition he might set up against the European, would be more than compensated for by the amount of goods the native would use. The right native had a distinct right to be in South Africa. It was not as if it was a white man's country that was being given to the native. It would be possible at any time for the white people, by legislation or by other means, to prevent the native from coming out of his own territories if they so desired. It would not be an easy thing for the native to keep out the white trader from going into the native territories and making money there, or to keep out European goods.

"Ibali lama Mpondo."

From the Education Gazette of the 3rd September we excerpt the following:—

"Every effort on the part of educated Natives to add to the literature of their language, and especially to provide literature of a permanently useful character is to be welcomed. For this reason the Department is glad to receive a copy of a new Xosa book, "Ibali Lama Mpondo," written by Mr W. D. Cingo Principal of the Practising School at Emfundisweni. This book consists of a history of the Pondo, Baca, Xesibe and Pondomise tribes, together with sections upon their customs. It is based on information sedulously collected by Mr Cingo from old men of the tribes referred to Students of Native history and custom, who are able to read Xosa, will find much interesting information in this little work, and teachers would find in it material for the teaching of history in their schools

It should, therefore, find a place in the libraries of all Native training Schools. The book is published at the Mission Printing Press, Palmerton, Pondoland East, and is sold at 2s 6d. Unfortunately it is put in paper covers, but teachers could, without difficulty, substitute cloth for the paper."

WEST AFRICA

BRITISH MANDATE CAMEROON.

The 1924 Report on the Administration of the British Cameroons (Colonial No. 16, H.M. Stationery Office, 2s. 9d.), opens with an explanation of the statement, made last year, and criticised by the Mandates Commission, that the Cameroon had "became an integral part of Nigeria." Probably the majority of those who knew anything about West Africa read the correct meaning into this, namely, that the country was administered *as if* it were an integral part of Nigeria, which is obviously the best way to deal with the peoples in the North, to whom the old Anglo-German boundary was merely an arbitrary division. In the South, the Cameroon Province is, to all intents and purposes, separate from Nigeria, save that its "overhead charges" are reduced by the use of Nigerian Departments and headquarters staffs. However, it is clear that the reunion of several tribes in the North will make it difficult to separate the mandated area again by the same international boundary, the more so since a "German" headman, Muhamman Bello, has become head of the British Emirate of Yola. On paper, the Cameroon will be separated from Nigeria by mentioning it separately in every Nigerian Ordinance intended to apply in the area, instead of, as heretofore, tacitly regarding general Nigerian legislation as applying to the Cameroon.

Steady progress in administration continues to be made, and a considerable portion of the reports is taken up by arguments in favour of the policy of indirect rule now applied wherever possible. In the North, the highly-progressive Emirate of Dikwa shows the system at its best, and the opening of a Native Administration school there on modern lines witnesses to the extent to which Koranic conservatism has been banished. Between North and South are found every variety of people, and every degree of development, but concrete evidence of progress is the settling down of the Arabs in the North, the fact that shy Pagans are coming down to farm at the foot of the hills among which they live, and that slavery and highway robbery are disappearing. In only one place was military force necessary, and that was at a village which had not been visited for 12 years, while the only troops stationed in the Cameroon had now been transferred from Bamenda to Abakaliki, in Nigeria. Very great visible progress in administration can hardly be expected until the Political Officers have completed their "assessments"—i.e., not only gained a knowledge of the taxable resources, but also of the principal customs and social organisations of the varied tribes whom they are called upon to aid in the evolution of self-government. In the extreme South—in the Kumba Division—it is reported that little beyond family consciousness has been found, but even here it is possible that an experienced officer would find some organisation of village club or secret society on which broader ideas might be based. The judicial system remains that of the Nigerian Provincial Courts, which so far appears to be working satisfactorily.

With regard to slavery, some trading occurs in the hills in the North, but co-operation with the French has had useful results, and the traffic is now very small. Domestic slavery does not legally exist, although public opinion in some parts still demands that a slave-born person must go through a form of redemption. In spite of the report, however, one feels that in some form domestic slavery will continue owing to the contentment with which many persons accept it, and also to the fact that debts may often be settled by forms of voluntary enslavement. There has been no labour problem, the Plantations Department having been the only large employer, taking about 10,000-12,000 labourers. The report shows these as having lived under almost ideal conditions, but the explanation that their pay of 4½d. a day and 1½d rations, will probably have to be increased by the Germans, who have now bought back most of the plantations, is suggestive, even though it is stated that under Government working, lack of sufficient supervision made 4½d. a day by no means a cheap wage. The statement that labourers were free to choose under which headman they would work, and that the latter were paid according to the number of men who *wished* to work under them could hardly have been carried out to the letter.

Traffic in arms was practically non-existent, but that in liquor has grown somewhat, despite the fact that prohibition reigns from Mamfe northward. 1,025 gallons of gin were imported, against 379 last year, and 4,356 gallons of beer, against 3,108. Smuggling from French territory, although extensive, is believed not to have included much liquor. In religious matters, full liberty of conscience has been allowed, as formerly, subject to the normal restrictions. Missionary enterprise is confined to the South, where there is one Catholic mission, while three Basle missionaries (Protestants) were expected. Education, both by Government and missions, was still greatly hampered by lack of staff. In the North, there were no mission schools, but the Native Administration of Dikwa had erected a building to accommodate 30 pupils, where English, Arabic, farming, and the usual subjects were being taught, while there were evening classes in Arabic for adults, and the nucleus of an arts and crafts school. Some Cameroon pupils also receive instruction at Yola, and there are the usual almost useless Koranic schools found in all Moslem areas. In the South, there are six Government schools, with 967 boy, and 102 girl, pupils, five Catholic schools, with 569 boys and 12 girls, and 33 Protestant schools, with 1,216 boys and 82 girls, the last, however, having no European supervision, other than that of the Government Inspector, for they are only nominally cared for by a French mission at Duala. There was a further decrease in the number of pupils on the rolls of the Native Administration schools in 1924, but the average attendance, 526, was practically the same as before.

Public health has received the same attention as in corresponding areas of Nigeria, and there has been no serious outbreak of disease, although a certain amount of relapsing fever occurred round Lake Chad. Venereal disease was worst, as might have been expected, round the military stations of Bamenda, and near the seaports, and filariasis was widespread, while Mamfe produced 1,076 cases of yaws out of 1,737 treated. Other serious diseases were rare, and the League of Nations' proposal that itinerant traders should be examined and licensed had been considered impracticable, not only owing to the difficulty of deciding exactly who *was* an itinerant trader, but because it was inadvisable to place any bar upon internal commerce.

The land tenure system of Dikwa is discussed at length in the report, and the principles adopted by the Mandatory Power have been the wise ones of seeing that unused land should be occupied by Natives desirous of working it, that full enjoyment of special works (draining, irrigation, etc.), should be secured to a man and his heirs so long as the land was not thereby kept out of cultivation, and that the collection and payment of customary dues should be tolerated.

The financial statements show that, including reasonable proportions of Nigerian expenditure and revenue, the deficit on the Cameroon was £53,335, or, on actual local expenditure and revenue, £62,884. On this basis of difference between local and estimated expenditure, the aggregate estimated deficit on administering the Mandate to date, would be about £203,000. The direct taxation, which amounted to £24,186, was raised by the cattle tax (1s. to 2s. per head), and a tribute tax, averaging from 1s. 8d. to 6s. per male in the North, and a poll-tax of from 3s. 6d. to 10s. per male in the South. The Customs revenue at Victoria was £8,546 on imports, and £6,865 on exports, the actual imports and exports being £45,945

Nigerian Tin Developments.

On October 3 a paragraph appeared in this column stating, on the authority of the "Daily Mail," that "Sir Abe Bailey now controls Ex-Lands Nigeria, Ltd., and Nigerian Base Metals Corporation, Ltd., and has arranged to acquire control of Anglo-Nigerian Tin Mines, Ltd." I now learn on good authority that the transactions involved are much greater in scope than might have been inferred from the wording of that paragraph, and affect other tin mining companies; indeed, what is taking place is the appearance of a new and comprehensive interest in the Nigerian tin mining business, and those most closely concerned predict that the consequences of the new move will be far-reaching. It will certainly involve much enhanced development and activity for the tin industry and consequently will be for the benefit of the Colony as a whole. The Nigerian tin industry has long needed the assistance of an influential group of mining interests, and it appears as if such assistance had now been found. A London daily newspaper, by the way, in a reference to the new move, confuses the Bailey interest with the Central Mining and Investment interest—a quite separate concern, also interested in Nigerian tin companies. It is possible, of course, that the two interests are combining operations in West Africa.

After the above was in type the following appeared in the "Daily Mail" of Thursday:—

The Nigerian Base Metals Corporation, with which Sir Abe Bailey is associated, has, we learn, arranged to acquire the extensive tin mining rights in Northern Nigeria of the Niger Company.

The deal, which involves a sum of several hundred thousand pounds, includes also a joint working arrangement whereby Nigerian Base Metals acquires the right to a participation in any future mining business entered into by the Niger Company, but it does not mean that the Niger Company is parting with its right to half the royalty payable on the tin production of companies operating in a large section of Northern Nigeria.

The acquisition of the Niger Company's mineral areas makes the Nigerian Base Metals Corporation the largest holding company in Northern Nigeria, with estimated reserves of tin ore of 30,000 tons, of nearly £6,000,000 gross value at present prices.

The nominal capital of the Nigerian Base Metals Corporation, which had already arranged to acquire the areas of the Premier Hydraulic Tin Mines of Nigeria, is £350,000, and the latest deal may necessitate an increase of the amount by not less than £50,000. The present issued capital is only £90,000 in 5s. shares, the market price of which is 10s.

Race Problem - 1925

Africa.

The Bunga.

To the Editor "Imvo."

SIR,—The freedom displayed by the members of the Transkeian Native Territories General Council in its last session at discourse and their ability at framing and tackling questions of vital issue has rather given a stir in the more erudite circles of the Blacks.

The display of boldness and ability by no means rudimentary on the part of the Councillors has strengthened our hopes, and what is more, has by far reduced if not killed altogether the spirit of antipathy and disregard which had stricken the minds of the acute vigilant natives.

If we are to expect these men to make any advance towards good we must encourage them by taking advantage of any little thing they may have done to thank them and show we are conscious of their efforts, because as we all know human nature is very sensitive to ingratitude. I have, therefore, prevailed upon myself to avail myself of this unique although belated opportunity to express our consciousness of their doings in this our initiative parliament. It is assuming the place of animated discourse where our cause may to some advantage be expounded.

We would hate to find men at the expense of the public going to Umtata with no conceived ideas. Going there only to undertake some duty which they are supposed to undertake but for which they would willingly remain in their homes. I do not imply anything of the sort does exist, but I say it would hurt us greatly if it did exist

The respect and popularity of the Bunga remains in the hands of the Natives. If any success is to come of this institution it must first win the interest of appreciating the (Abahlekazi) Magistrates who now enjoy an influence approaching that of the olden day witch-doctor, but sincere interest springing from that gem of national consciousness 'love of one's country.'

The whole system of the General Council needs some pruning if we are to keep it abreast with the times, and this cannot be done not until the people that compose it admit of such pruning. The more they plunge into elevated debates with political tact and handle questions of importance with some touch of diplomatic acuteness the sooner the inefficient will be sifted out and the pruning season will have begun. We have no patience for the gullibles in the Bunga, but we want men that are initiative. It is for these reasons that so much approval has been current amongst the more educated for the high pitch the discourse at some instances was being kept by some more capable Councillors and of these we need some more.

Educational Administration.

Under the heading of Educational Administration the Phelps Stokes Report supports the contention of the progressive Native teachers of South Africa by laying it down that in School committees there should be, apart from representatives of the Government, missions and economic groups, Native members whenever there are Natives capable of understanding educational policies.

Some of our inspectors might with benefit note the suggestions that Government supervision should include friendly visitation: for the chief purpose of inspection is to ascertain the extent to which school methods and results attain the required standards, rather than a terrorising man hunt for individual failures The English system of school inspection is universally known for its thoroughness it is an important and useful phase of surpervision, provided it does not develop antagonism between the teacher and the inspector Helpful and effective supervision requires a well-balanced proportion of inspection, supervision and friendly visitation.

For the training of ministers, and other religious workers the report wisely says: Courses in hygiene, agriculture, industry and recreation will furnish much of the content required in the education of the religious leaders of the people Customs and traditions of the Native people must be studied and interpreted, by such students, in the light of comparative religion and social science. The helpful elements must be distinguished from those that have been harmful and destructive.

Concerning Fort Hare, the report pays the following compliment: "The high standard and excellent adaptation of work in the Fort Hare College may well be accepted as a type for all intercolonial institutions. It is also suggested that students from other Colonies may well consider the continuation of their education at Fort Hare rather than in England or America."

Educational administration in Europe and America has made large use of teachers' conferences. There is every need for the stimulation and guidance of interchange relating to methods, policies and ideals. There should be district conferences for teachers every year, and teachers' conferences for leaders in closely related colonies every five years. Because the successes of Negro education in the Southern States of America are largely due to correlation of the minds and methods of teachers and workers representing the varied experiences of Government Departments of Education, mission schools and extension work related to farms, homes, health and the character needs of the people.

Our Native Affairs Commission might propose this *modus operandi* to our Government with beneficial effect.

Dr. Loram and the Colour Bar.

In the course of his evidence before the Wage Commission at Johannesburg, Dr. Loram, a member of the Native Affairs Commission, said that judging by the speeches of the Prime Minister additional land would not be set aside for the Natives, and that the development of the existing and acquired Native areas would undoubtedly result in attracting a large number of Natives to the segregated areas rather than to the towns; and as the number of Natives in the town decreased the opposition of Europeans, which was based on apprehension, would also decrease. The Native was very slow to adapt himself to industrial life, especially if he were under his own or the direction of his compatriots, for he had not the same standard of efficiency or achievement as the European, and it would certainly be a great many years before his product could possibly compete with that of the European

In regard to the importation of native foreign labour, Dr. Loram was of opinion that that should be diminished gradually until it disappeared, and in this respect he would urge caution, It seemed to him they would never get a better wage for the Union Native and so make him a better worker and better consumer while an almost unchallenged reservoir of barbarian labour could be called upon. What he had meant by barbarian labour was labour of a very low standard of life, tribal people who could be brought in, thereby creating a tendency to keep down the wages of a people who were becoming semi-civilised or even civilised.

As to the penal clause in Native contracts, those, he thought, were excessive and should be reduced, because if they were, they would lead to improvements. When he spoke of that he had in mind the case of Native farm labourers. The question of minimum wages for Natives was referred to by Dr. Loram, who stated that this principle certainly operated in the gold industry, but it was difficult to say anything in that respect about agriculture, for the simple reason that conditions varied so much They did not know at present what wages were being paid throughout the Union to Native farm labourers, for there was no system of contract so far as rural employees were concerned. The objection to the Wage Act was the grading of wages only as far down as what was called the minimum civilised standard, and he would wish that the grading were applicable to Natives, for he thought they would then get, say, 4s or 5s a day for work performed by them, whereas without a minimum wage safeguard they might only be remunerated at the rate of 2s. 6d a day. The Wages Board was stopped from dealing with wages below the minimum of the civilised scale, and it was left to the Minister to say whether the Board should make any allowance in that respect The Act, he thought, should be applicable to all occupations, white and black, in urban and rural areas.

Fitness irrespective of colour, Dr. Loram maintained, should be the determining factor in the matter of appointing persons to occupations in mining and other occupations. There were certain jobs where the safety of a number of persons depended on the sense of responsibility of some parties He could wish that before anyone was put in charge of the job, he should demonstrate his ability to fill it Similarly with semi-skilled occupations, there should be some test of efficiency, and it should be applied If a Native were able to satisfy the test he would not debar him from carrying on that occupation, in other words he would determine the employment of white and black by the fitness to do their job and not by the colour of their skin.

As to the effect of a colour bar on the Native mind, Dr. Loram said: "It will certainly dishearten the Native if he finds that no matter how hard he may try, no matter how skilled he may become, he is going to be debarred from certain employment because his skin is black. To some Natives it will be a challenge, and to others it will be a confession of fear on the part of the European, so I consistently oppose the Colour Bar Bill.

The Native will put up with a lot so long as he can see an opening, but to say that because he has been born with a black skin he is debarred from certain occupations makes him sullen and in course of time will irritate him."

Continuing, Dr. Loram said he did not see any objection to Natives competing with whites provided the former received white wages.

Native Agriculture

The concluding chapter of the Phelps-Stokes report on Education in East Africa, deals with Agriculture The author, Dr. H. L. Shantz is a recognised expert in the U.S.A. Department of Agriculture and his treatment is scientific. His subject is divided into sixteen sections, the most important being these: The Place of Agriculture in the Life of the Bantu; The Necessity of Education if the Native is to Hold his Place on the Land; What should constitute Agricultural Education; Native Agricultural Methods; Woman's Place in Native Agriculture

Some startling statements are made in praise of primitive methods that are usually condemned only because they are different from those of Europe. Dr. Shantz maintains that: "the Afri-

can Native does produce the food necessary for him by his methods but that the famines are the result of unfavourable seasons and lack of foresight or accrued capital as stored food) to carry over the famine period That may not be poor culture. It may be poor planning. It is only our elaborate system for the distribution of foods that protects civilised man from the recurrence of famine: and even now there is seldom a time when in some part of our world there is not a shortage of food."

"If th Native is to hold his place in the world," continues Dr. Shantz, "if he is to hold his land and his right to farm it, he must meet the economic pressure of the outside world. He is no longer isolated, and it is doubtful if he can be protected from exploitation or economic slavery unless he can account in production for the land he occupies If populations increase, great areas of land capable of intensive production cannot be continued as they are at present in a relatively unproductive state. It seems necessary, therefore, to start a system of education which will enable the Native to advance with the demands, if he is to remain more or less an independent producer He must adapt his production to world needs and make himself a contributor of raw material wanted by the industrial world or give way to other people who are willing and anxious to take his place This, of course, is not to be expected immediately. but when one considers the low plane from which the Native must start, the process of education cannot be adopted too soon the meet the emergency."

With these few samples of the excellence of its work we leave the report to our readers, educationists and officials, in the full confidence that if its recommendations are carefully studied and adopted, it will usher a new era of prosperity for Africa

Native Higher Education.

The Phelps-Stokes Report says that advanced technical, agricultural and teacher training, and professional knowledge of medicine, law and theology are as essential to the complete school system in Africa as they are in any other part of the world There are now only two schools South of Egypt that have any claim to recognition as Colleges, one is in Sierra Leone and the other at Fort Hare in South Africa. The demand for such education cannot be long delayed for many have already gone to Europe and America for it, and this is a serious handicap for the cost is almost prohibitive. That a number of Africans from South and West Africa have successfully passed through the ordeal is greatly to their credit. No one knows, however, the price they have paid in physical endurance and in mental and moral strain. Nor does anyone know how many young Africans have in the process been lost to a life of service for Africa.

Those responsible for educational policies in Africa should realise that the millions of Native people must have Native leaders. Already unwise and ignorant leaders are teaching false doctrines that cause dissension, irritation and unrest. The Great War started ideas and movements, suspicions and ambitions, hopes and desires that are extending and deeping among the masses. Gossip, rumours and propaganda are brought from Europe, Asia and America and distributed in the huts and kraals of these primitive people. There is a crying need for wise leaders who both understand their own Native people and apprehend somewhat of the real meaning of civilisation and Christianity. Such an understanding is by no means easy to obtain. It is a quality of statesmanship that requires the best that education has to impart. Higher education is also essential to provide knowledge of the physical science necessary to explore and exploit the great resources of soil, minerals and animal life in Africa, e.g. Chemistry, Physics and Biology. The great campaigns for hygiene and sanitation required in Africa cannot be effectively carried on without the aid of a Native leadership trained in the sciences. The social and religious life of the millions of Africa awaits Native ministers and teachers who have an adequate and accurate knowledge of social forces and religion, who can distinguish reason from emotion, conviction from sentiment, service from selfishness, true religion from superstition—leaders to guide their people through the perplexing processes of evolution from primitive stages of life to those of civilisation now forced upon them by overwhelming forces, both kind and unkind.

The Basutoland COUNCIL.

The Twentieth Session.

Next the Council was concerned with the reduction of the numbers of herds which matter was introduced durink the previous session by the High Commissioner, as an advice to the Basuto, as a means for the improvement of their live-stock, Star of Basutoland 10-9-25 also on the pastural reasons. This session the High Commissioner had more expressed his regret that no attempt was made to reduce the herds The average councillors viewed this with suspicion and were caused much anxiety by this hint to this last year's prososal.

Naturally it is not an easy matter to convince these councillors that the reduction of the numbers of the herds was for the good of the people and that such a course would render the land rich in pastures, thereby making it possible for the owners to improve the remaining. The types of cattle which are impossible to rear now in Basutoland on account of the scarcity of pastural land would be bred with ease as it is done in the Union of South Africa. Most councillors have no difficulties with regard to their herds. Almost every one of them has a jurisdiction over a certain ward and has places reserved for his herds alone, all the season round. They can only realize the danger pointed out to them if they placed themselves in the place of people who have no prerogative powers over pastures as they have, but that is the position they are not prepared to lower themselves to.

In their own way of thinking, they are born to rule and thrive at the expense of the ruled clases, so the common people, in their own opinion suffer in accordance to the planning of God. They, as chiefs do not feel the responsibility for the sufferings of the people through the loss of stock.

Cr Chokobane, the champion of the common Basuto said something which we are at variance with. He said, there is no chief that does not want to rule over prosperous nation Wealth was the glory of chieftainship. This is not true of our chiefs

However though the opposition was great there is nothing in our opinion to make one to dispair. The few chiefs and councillors that spoke in favour of the advice, such as Chief Sempe and councillors Lesiamo Molapo, Tautona Seapa, Joseph Molapo, Mothetho, chiefs Quobela and Tsepinare Majara, elicited unchallengeable sound reasons why herds were to be reduced. They reasonably proved that although they did not take the advice the death havoc was taking its course in stock. The livestock was dying through want of pastures and there was nothing to stop them from dying. They were selling to the traders, skins and hides, instead of sheep and cattle. That only revealled their foolishness, Their arguments are sure to impress men who have brains who count on their own sweat.

The Paramount Chief is among those who spoke intelligently on this subject. He admitted that stock died through want of pastures and said that was quite evident to everybody. But he suggested that the matter must be pushed on gradually. He said example was the most important thing in a matter of that kind. He said those who understood the advice must lead the way and show example to others. If they prosper, there will be others following their example. He prayed that the advice must not be enforced by law. Those who now refuse to take that advice will learn by the experiences of others.

The Paramount Chief has said the only possible thing at the present moment. But it is only possible if there will be protection. It will not help if only few men in a village or ward of a chief reduced their stock and are still restricted from ploughing their lands for winter feeding, and further are not allowed to cut from lands all the feeding that there is for their stock such as blue grass and mealie stocks

If those who reduced their herds would have ample facilities to prepare for feeding of the few that they left then and only then the Paramount Chief's suggestion will be workable. Otherwise they are the first to be disheartened as progress will be rendered tardy.

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Race Problem - 1925.

Africa.

THE SIERRA LEONE
WEEKLY NEWS
Saturday, March 21, 1925.

THE NATURAL ASPIRATIONS OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

II.

THERE seems to us only one way out of the problem arising out of the policy of Education we referred to in our last; a policy unnecessarily circumscribed and deliberately parochial, and that way of deliverance is for the people themselves to appreciate fully the situation and be prepared, as never before, to take up their own burden. It is not difficult to notice that although the Protectorate Africans have not been favoured with educational establishments sufficient enough from which they could receive that foundation knowledge in the development of their minds towards the appreciation of their bodily, mental and spiritual powers to function, yet there has been going on a sort of transformation in their attitudes and a radical change in their points of view, which are mostly responsible for the unsettlement resulting in a large proportion deserting their homes and natural industries to find some more remunerative and apparently more genial and less exacting situations by which, they have regrettably changed their role of being producers into becoming consumers.

However useful it might have been when the Government decided to substitute a West African Regiment for the West Indian Regiment with which a former generation in this Colony had been acquainted, and which played some important part in the domestic and social life of the community, it is however a fact that that step was the foundation of creating a new point of view amongst the Protectorate youths. Many of them, already acquainted with the role of uncivilised warfare found it rather congenial and by far of greater advantages to be enlisted as recruits to form a regiment of soldiers under the pay and protection of the Imperial Government. The kindly treatment and encouragement meted to them proved a great attraction and as a result there were some hundreds always on the waiting list for enlistment. Naturally, this new avenue had its disturbing effects on the mentality of the Protectorate youths; and the allurement of looking forward to, at short intervals, and claiming direct compensation for service rendered, from the King's Pay sheet, —an experience, many of them had never known.—was more than a fascinating reality. This regiment, known to-day as the West African Regiment has fulfilled expectations in the direction of maintaining the peace and affording protection and safety to the Colony and Protectorate, as never before. At the same time it should not be over-looked that it has proved a great temptation to the Protectorate youths to desert the tilling of the soil wherein they had figured as producers, to become dependents, thereby increasing the ranks of consumers. The situation has been all the more made serious when it is borne in mind that these soldiers, now settled in their barracks, draw a number of their relatives and friends who settle with them doing hardly any work, but at the same time swelling the ranks of consumers, which in effect is a further denudement of the ranks of producers in the Protectorate.

Now, any one who has taken the trouble to observe would have discovered that the West African soldier has become the ideal to the average Protectorate youth; he is looked up to as an embodiment of all that is worth knowing and all that makes for order and discipline. In the King's uniform and under the King's pay, he could inspire fear where confidence and respect were not easily forthcoming. No longer could he be driven to work at the farm of his chief and be content with just the mouthful which is allowed as the only compensation for service rendered. He becomes therefore the object of emulation to his youthful compeers and thus a change in outlook is the result, and every one now makes it a determination to leave home either to join the army or be employed in such occupations having a European as his master. The point we desire attention be drawn to, relative to our subject is the conscious or unconscious repetition of the same process by present day Europeans, which, though well meaning on the part of the benefactors of our forebears, was the course marked out for their training, but which has left us to-day so painfully weak and helpless, hopelessly dependent and absolutely unable to do things for ourselves. This false policy has had another government support, in its educational Institution at Bo where a large sum of money has been spent in the training of the sons and nominees of the Chiefs.

We do not intend by what we say to minimise the importance of the results already achieved by this Institution. But the question we would like to ask and the point germane to the issue is, has the instruction imparted at the Bo school helped to create in the students, those elements of character which have been lacking in the youths of the Colony? Are the students of that School better able to function in the direction ultimately to self-help? What have been the spheres in which at the close of their school career they have been made to start life? We were glad to note from the report of the Educational Department in circulation that four Konno boys had refused to be engaged as their compeers, but were decided to go back to the soil and start agriculture on scientific lines. Eighteen pupils at the close of the year 1923 finished their course and were allocated as follows; two went to the Agricultural Department as apprentices, one as Assistant Master to the Agricultural Training College, Njala, and one each to the Sanitary, Railway, Roads, Forestry, Provincial Administration. Three and subsequently refused appointments to start farming economic products.

We press the question, judging from the failure which is now clamantly bewailed that the Colony born has been mis-educated. and that he is only qualified to sit round the counter or hold a pen at the desk—what are the lines now being pursued by the Government which has been so studious in excluding any of the influences which may be weilded by the Colony-born on any of their new charges, what, we ask, are the lines adopted which have commended themselves to those responsible for the educational welfare of the African peoples as affording the assurance that at the end, the result will be different and a new race of Africans will be produced that will be able to do things, and whose education will remove them from the rut of cringing dependence and that mask of make-believe, in the form of complacent loyalty which asks no question but simply obeys, and which appears as the only passport into the heart of the present moulders of their destiny? If we must express our conviction from the observations we have made close upon forty years, it would perhaps not meet with general acceptance; but that notwithstanding, we see no release from the conviction which surges daily upon us that in no respect would the condition of the people of the Protectorate be better than that of those of the Colony; because the educational policy by which they have been brought to know what they are, where they are, what they are there for, and what they can do in the building up of their race, appears to us to have failed lamentably. What we have observed is that the Protectorate youths have had a serious bias in the direction of copying their European teachers—their mode of thought their out-look. They have had a large amount of ethical teachings in the direction of being themselves, and respecting their ancestral customs not despising their own people, and proving loyal to the soil; but in practice these students have in the course of their training become curious when they have noticed some difference in what they were told to do by their teachers what and these latter really do themselves. Their eyes have truly been opened, the result of eating of the tree of knowledge. They have not been inspired with the spirit of patronage they see doled out to their fathers who are the natural rulers of their country nor have they been able to appreciate that double standard of right when it refers to the European and when it refers to the African. They have watched the practical illustration of the lessons taught them in the class rooms how they have been borne out in the intercourse of the Political Officers with their fathers and people generally; they have not failed to find some disquieting discrepancies which have made them sceptical. Unless there is some radical change in the attitude, such a cleavage will widen as the years fall out and the dignity of manhood ripens; inevitably the last state would become worse than the first. Under such circumstances, some may think it chimerical or utopian; but the Congress in the Education paper delivered by Professor O. FADUMA, has marked out a course out of the "house of bondage" into the promise land of African progress and the fulfilment of their natural aspirations. Some day, some time a Moses will appear—an African for African Redemption. Will the people follow? Will they unite? Will they be ready to redeem their mis-spent moments and begin to retrieve the past? This is the question of the hour and it is just what the Congress has to tackle to-day if the people would support it.

WHY SO SUPERSTITIOUS?

BY ANOTHER DOCTOR.

To the Editor of the WEEKLY NEWS.

SIR,—I have read with much delight the article under the above heading written by Dr. Vijayaraghavachariya published in your last issue.

I agree with the Doctor that without doubt, this community is becoming painfully superstitious to the extent that nothing as death or sickness now takes place without attributing the cause to witchcraft or black magic. A great many people have been seized with the contagious disease that may be called Baalathphobea i.e., the dread of witches or mysterious forces.

I am afraid however that the remedy prescribed by the doctor, viz., the knowledge of hygiene, physiology, anatomy and physics are not adequate in eradicating superstitions from the minds of obsessed people though they are very helpful and valuable in attaining that end.

To deny the exisance of a known phenomenon such as psychical or spiritual influence in order to attribute all effects to physical causes is a defective research, and in such a case "silly nonsense" is another name for ignorance.

If superstition is a standing over in amazement on a thing, or excessive reverence or fear of that which is unknown, the only remedy is true and complete knowledge.

In studying the constitution of man we must take into consideration not only the physical but also the psychological aspects. Every potent drug has its therapeutical as well as its physiological actions on the human system. Man can be effected by medicines either for good or evil, and he can also be influenced either for good or evil by psychical or spiritual forces.

If by the projection of spiritual current or animal magnetism a paralysed or lame limb of a sufferer, who believes in a healer can be restored to life and activity, the same forces, if used maliciously will paralyse the limb of a person who permits himself through vitiated will power to be

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Sierra Leone

subject to the psychical force of another. This has been proved by hypnotism, when one when the operator by mysterious means at night, but one comes in contact with the subject, a thought transference. Man can be either a saint or a devil. The word witch amongst ancient spiritual foes. St. Paul exhorted the Ephesian

Christians to resist spiritual enemies. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6, 12.

The remedy is not physical knowledge but spiritual forces. "The weapon of your warfare is not carnal but mighty through God to the tearing down of strongholds." This is the work of the churches. It means the awakening of the soul, the development of spiritual self-consciousness and power. Until we get to this, our physical and scientific knowledge will be ineffective and in many cases totally impotent.

Physical and spiritual knowledge must go hand in hand. In the interior of the Yoruba country, the fear of Sopono, the god of small-pox, has been destroyed by knowledge. There was a time that worshippers demand tributes from every one in the country for the purpose of offering sacrifices to propitiate the wrath of the small-pox god and prevent the raging of the plague in the country. They made large sums of money by this. Very often they predict the time that small-pox will visit a vicinity and the prediction is nearly always correct.

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Town Councils and Natives.

The following article contributed by a Native correspondent to the "Cape Mercury" of the 5th inst. throws valuable light as to the hopeless conditions under which natives are living in the administration of urban locations by municipal councils of this particular type. We strongly recommend the Government and Native Affairs Department and the Administrator to observe these conditions, as in framing and condoning of municipal by-laws, very often the natives are left to the tender mercies of such councils, with no means of redress in case of mal-administration. We have always been inclined to think that too much power is vested in local authorities, which, when aoused, means the downfall and subjugation of thousands of ambitions and law-abiding natives. We desire to impress that the existence of this parlous state of affairs must be borne in mind by the government in delegating extreme powers to councils in the future, and that it is within its power to afford relief in the present instance. The article reads :—

The question of providing sufficient accommodation at the municipal locations for natives is receiving the attention of the "King" Borough Council. Arrangements are being made with the Government to advance a loan for the purpose of building houses. Of paramount importance to the Council is the question of first arranging to accommodate the Brownlee Station residents at the new location. The exact number of residents who intend to remove to Leightonville is not known by the local authorities, but all the same they intend building. I have it from first hand information that many of the Brownlee Station people, as soon as they are compensated, are leaving the precincts of the town altogether, and it is their intention to build new homes elsewhere.

The strong desire to flee from the clutching hand of the "King" Council is not in the least to be wondered at. What terms of prosperous and peaceful settlement do the Council offer to the Natives at the new location? None whatever. Within the last six months the Council has systematically refused no fewer than six applications for hawkers' licences from natives, and Councillor Roberts boldly stated in Council that it is not the policy of this Council to grant any licences to natives. The Native (Urban Areas) Act 21 of 1923, in so far as it purports to assist the Natives and encourage them in industry and taking pride in their own homes, means nothing to the King William's Town Borough Council, and cognisance is only given to such sections of it as will confer authority in its hands to penalise native law-breakers.

King William's Town, as the chief town of Kaffraria, and the home of native tribes, has not by any means taken its proper place in encouraging natives to become an intrinsic asset to the progress of the district. It would seem that the cowardly and un-Christian attitude of the city fathers of fearing native competition in trade has totally blinded their sense of duty towards this particular section of its ratepayers, and omitted to remember that the adversity of the native cannot spell the prosperity of the European. A word of warm thanks, however, is due to the Chamber of Commerce of this town in that it has seen the folly of this psychology, and has made representations to the Government soliciting relief of dire distress among natives of the district. If our councillors regarded things in the same purview, what a happy and contented lot we all would be here!

Natives here cannot even hold meetings in their own homes at the location for their upliftment socially and economically. They cannot trade, in spite of the overwhelming evidence of the Urban Areas Act showing a distinct desire to open trading exclusively to natives in locations. As long as this Act fails to make it an obligation for this Council to grant licences to natives, this will not be done. The faith imposed in the city fathers by the makers of this law, that natives shall receive a square deal from them, has, so far, been shamefully abused. However, the natives of this town, through their Vigilance Association are not content with leaving matters as they are, or to allow themselves to be set back by the wiles of an indiscreet Council. I understand this association is laying this grievance at the hands of our local members of Parliament and the Provincial authorities to get redress.

I submit that the invocation of other authority by natives for deliverance from a harsh Council is an open disgrace to our town, as a purely Xosa centre, and the more there is said about the matter in Pretoria, Capetown, and even in the House of Assembly, so much more will our town gain notoriety as compared with other towns. Just think of the contrast between King William's Town and its sister town East London or Queenstown in the treatment of natives. At

Christians to resist spiritual enemies. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6, 12.

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3-10-25

Race Problem—
Africa.

Literary Digest 7-4-25.

SOUTH AFRICAN PUZZLES

THE ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME accorded the Prince of Wales at all points of his South African tour has caused some bewilderment in England, we are told, where there was a feeling that South Africa was not too sympathetically disposed toward Great Britain. A correspondent of the London *Economist*, who has been in touch with public life in South Africa during a residence of a good many years in that country, gives us his impressions of the political situation there. But he avers that he claims no more authority for his estimate than would attach to that of any other South African citizen, who had similarly come into touch with the problems of South African life. He notes that the English people have been all along thinking that "a strong secession movement" had developed in South Africa, and goes on to say, they further believe—

"the Boers are still at heart irreconcilable; that the Nationalists are a real secession party; and now that they have overthrown the Smuts Government and come into power themselves, they not only greet the Heir Apparent with every token of loyalty and respect, but seem to be going out of their way to repudiate the very notion of secession. What can it all mean?"

Still more strange to the English, this informant remarks, is the spectacle of what is apparently a solid Government formed from the alliance of such seeming incompatibles as a Radical Workers' party in the towns and an essentially Conservative Farmers' party in the country. Those who know South Africa a little more intimately, he says, will express even greater surprize at the apparently close cooperation between, for instance, the dour farmers of the Orange Free State and the volatile labor elements on the Witwatersrand. But he assures us that it may be some consolation to those who are conscious of these puzzles to realize that "we in South Africa are conscious of them too," and he proceeds:

"There is a large element in all our politics of the incalculable and inscrutable. Like the Irish, we are driven to form the characteristically Irish habit of expecting the unexpected.

"Yet much of the English mystification is due to sheer ignorance, especially ignorance of the great change that has come over South Africa during the fifteen years since the Union. But it must be something more than ignorance which induces the London *Times*, in an editorial article on Lord Milner, to speak of 'the overpowering need for rapid restoration in a country not merely ravaged by war, but devoid even before the war of the most elementary equipment of civilization.'

"It is not worth while to inquire what the London *Times* considers to be the most elementary equipment of civilization. But it is worth while to point out that such statements as this seem to be merely a continuation of that persistently cultivated 'South African Legend' which has done such wide-spread harm.

"It would seem a strange thing to say that the clue to South African history over the last fifty years or so is not primarily race at all. But here again we have just another facet of the enigma. Beneath and behind the struggle of Boer and Briton there has been going on another and more fundamental struggle, and now it is openly manifested in politics. The first obvious indication of it is that the party division in Parliament now cuts right across 'race' lines on both sides of the House. In other words, the deeper issues have come to the surface, and have subordinated those which were only temporary and secondary. And those deeper issues are almost entirely economic, at least in the practical form in which they occur. It will be along lines of cleavage of economic policy that South African parties will tend more and more to arrange themselves."

Gold, diamonds, and the land exploration and prospecting, which were represented by such enterprises as the Chartered Company, this South African observer writes, are the factors whose operation must be understood if we are to estimate political forces now at work in South Africa. The country became known in England and Europe, he recalls, as one of large potential wealth, but wealth of such a kind that, while it held out rich prospects, it demanded a great supply of capital for profitable exploitation. We read then:

"Consequently the process of industrialization which began with the Kimberley Diamond Fields fifty years ago moved rapidly. It modified profoundly the life of colored as well as white South Africans, and it produced a massive body of financial interests whose center was certainly not in South Africa. Hence the steadily growing resentment, mainly among Dutch South Africans at first, against what they felt to be a state of things which not only removed the settlement of fundamental South African questions from South African soil, but settled them in such a way as was felt to complicate seriously and prejudicially to the white man the already complex racial and social problems of the country. I do not ask whether the feeling was justified I merely say it has long been there. Actual military conquest of the two republics served to intensify it."

Since the establishment of the Union of South Africa, we are told, economic problems have become more acute as economic progress has been more rapid. The war in Europe both accelerated and complicated the development of lines of cleavage, according to this informant, who declares that the depression which followed the boom had the effect necessary to bring race feeling into dominant political action. He goes on to say:

"So long as this feeling was entertained mainly by the Dutch population, so long could it be represented as 'Secession,' and the English population could be rallied by the waving of the flag. But when the war was over, and disillusionment began to supervene, the English working population of the towns, especially of Johannesburg, developed a similar feeling, and joined hands with the Nationalists to get rid of the Smuts Government which was looked upon as a too-willing instrument of the non-South African exploiter. Again I must insist that I am but describing the feeling that was operative. I am not concerned here either to justify it or to show it to be unfounded."

The solid, practical facts which this writer believes to emerge from all this is that the alliance of the Nationalists with the Labor party is something much more than a mere electoral device. To his mind it expresses rather a certain community of feeling among the poorer folk, who, whether in town or country, have no other home than South Africa, and whose children have to grow up and be provided for in South Africa. To such a combination, he remarks thoughtfully, the future of the ordinary white citizen in his relations to the huge preponderance of color is a matter of primary concern. Hence he predicts some novel departures in economic policy, especially in regard to town wages, and, he continues:

"The point I wish to emphasize in conclusion is that while a desire to get back the old independence is still widely shared, especially in the northern provinces, it is not a matter of practical politics to-day. The terms of the alliance, indeed, preclude it from becoming so. What remains of the idea of 'Secession' after that deduction has been made is a deep resentment against anything that suggests a manipulation of South African factors from outside. There are two Dutch words which are often translated into English by the word 'independence.' One of them means the state of not being dependent, the other means 'autonomous' (self-standing). It is upon the second of these that the emphasis is now being placed in South Africa, and that not by the Dutch or even the Nationalists alone."

On the subject of the white citizen's problem with regard to the "huge preponderance of color in South Africa," we find a contributor to *The Contemporary Review* (London) saying:

"There is no white nation growing up in South Africa. Only a colored one. So far the white man has failed, and the white race in South Africa is drifting slowly toward ultimate extinction. But even now that drift might be checked. South Africa can never be a white man's land in the same sense as Canada and Australia and New Zealand. It may never contain a white majority. Yet it can house a white minority large enough to claim nationhood, and strong enough to retain its domination, its racial ideals and its white civilization. Only present conditions and tendencies will have to be altered by a great conscious national effort, in which all the resources of the State, and all the strength and the idealism of the white population, are concentrated upon the one task of safeguarding the white race."

The Prince's Reply.

Paramount Chief, Sons of Moshesh, Chiefs and people of the Basuto Nation.

I deeply appreciate the words that the Paramount Chief has just addressed to me on your behalf and I shall never forget the warmth and sincerity of the welcome you have given me today.

I thank you very much for the honour you have shown me, as the son of your King, by coming here in such numbers because I realise the difficulties and dangers you must have encountered in many places owing to the recent floods. The King is well aware that the Basuto can be counted amongst his most loyal subjects.

Your War Memorial is a lasting testimony to the devotion of those Basuto who served His Majesty in distant lands and who proved by their example that the loyal sentiments contained in the Address that has just been read to me are not mere words but the expression of what is in your hearts.

Chief Jonathan and others took you under Her protection many years ago. She is no longer with us but amongst you can remember those days when your country was stricken with famine and devastated by strife. Today, however, you live in peace and prosperity under British rule and I am pleased to hear that you still cherish the memory of my Great Grandmother Queen Victoria who first took you by the hand. It is only by following the advice of those who have been placed over you that you can hope to keep peace

Basutoland
6-5-25.

Race Problem — 1925.

Africa.

Literary Digest 7/4/25

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"So long as this feeling was entertained mainly by the Dutch population, so long could it be represented as 'Secession,' and the English population could be rallied by the waving of the flag. But when the war was over, and disillusionment began to supervene, the English working population of the towns, especially of Johannesburg, developed a similar feeling, and joined hands with the Nationalists to get rid of the Smuts Government which was looked upon as a too-willing instrument of the non-South African exploiter. Again I must insist that I am but describing the feeling that was operative. I am not concerned here either to justify it or to show it to be unfounded."

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"The point I wish to emphasize in conclusion is that while a desire to get back the old independence is still widely shared, especially in the northern provinces, it is not a matter of practical politics to-day. The terms of the alliance, indeed, preclude it from becoming so. What remains of the idea of 'Secession' after that deduction has been made is a deep resentment against anything that suggests a manipulation of South African factors from outside. There are two Dutch words which are often translated into English by the word 'independence.' One of them means the state of not being dependent, the other means 'autonomous' (self-standing). It is upon the second of these that the emphasis is now being placed in South Africa, and that not by the Dutch or even the Nationalists alone."

On the subject of the white citizen's problem with regard to the "huge preponderance of color in South Africa," we find a contributor to *The Contemporary Review* (London) saying:

"There is no white nation growing up in South Africa. Only a colored one. So far the white man has failed, and the white race in South Africa is drifting slowly toward ultimate extinction. But even now that drift might be checked. South Africa can never be a white man's land in the same sense as Canada and Australia and New Zealand. It may never contain a white majority. Yet it can house a white minority large enough to claim nationhood, and strong enough to retain its domination, its racial ideals and its white civilization. Only present conditions and tendencies will have to be altered by a great conscious national effort, in which all the resources of the State, and all the strength and the idealism of the white population, are concentrated upon the one task of safeguarding the white race."

The Prince's Reply.

Paramount Chief, Sons of Moshesh, Chiefs and people of the Basuto Nation.

I deeply appreciate the words that the Paramount Chief has just addressed to me on your behalf and I shall never forget the warmth and sincerity of the welcome you have given me today.

I thank you very much for the honour you have shown me, as the son of your King, by coming here in such numbers because I realise the difficulties and dangers you must have encountered in many places owing to the recent floods. The King is well aware that the Basuto can be counted amongst his most loyal subjects. Your War Memorial is a lasting testimony to the devotion of those Basuto who served His Majesty in distant lands and who proved by their example that the loyal sentiments contained in the Address

Visit of Prince of Wales to Basutoland 6-5-25.

Queen Victoria who first took you not mere words but the expression under Her protection many years of what is in your hearts. ago. She is no longer with us but Chief Jonathan and others the King continues to watch over you amongst you can remember those you with fatherly care. You must days when your country was show yourselves worthy of his stricken with famine and devastated protection by listening to the words by strife. Today, however, you of the officers. He has appointed live in peace and prosperity under to guide and instruct you. Your British rule and I am pleased to will help you to educate the hear that you still cherish the best use of your land, to keep you memory of my Great Grandmother from disease and to keep pace

with your neighbours or to play a useful part in the management of your own affairs.

I see that you are a Nation of horsemen and have large numbers of excellent ponies.

I am looking forward to playing polo here to-morrow and it will be pleasant to remember that my first game in South Africa was played in your Territory.

Paramount Chief, Chiefs and people, I thank you again for coming in such numbers to meet me and for the welcome you have given me, and I pray that you may continue to prosper and remain in peace under the protection which you enjoy.

THE SCHOOLS OF THE GOLD COAST.

Sir,—Please allow me space to correct an erroneous impression under which Mr. Solanke seems to be labouring, as witness his comments in your issue of the 13th inst., on my last letter about the schools of Gold Coast.

If Mr. Solanke would take the trouble to re-read my letter he would find that I made no appeal to the mercantile houses or the missionaries to educate us, as his comments purport.

I certainly did appeal to the Government. How Mr. Solanke could call us "a race of beggars" because we appeal to a Government "run" with our money, to provide schools with money provided by us baffles me. I have yet to be convinced that a *cestui que trust* (to use Mr. Solanke's phraseology) who asks his trustees to invest his trust money in a way more advantageous to him deserves the epithet "beggar."

Mr. Solanke knows the duties of a civilised Government and I can only say that the sooner we cease to regard the various West African Governments as alien Governments, and by co-operation ask to be done for us what are the common rights of taxpayers, the better it will be for everybody.

Mr. Solanke is perhaps of all contemporary students the one doing most for his race and country, and as such is entitled to respect for his views. Schemes, however, like that outlined in his comments seem to me rather fantastic. They savour too much of the fiery enthusiasm of students, which simply meet with ridicule and pity from experienced men facing facts.

Mr. Solanke would have us "run," side by side with the present expensive education departments of the Governments which we pay for, an equally elaborate and expensive, independent organisation. Where is the money to come from?

He says the missionaries did not go to the Coast to educate us. It may be so, but I would fight shy of making such a sweeping assertion against a body from whose hands I received the rudiments of the little education I have. It should please Mr. Solanke to know that the Wesleyan Mission in the Gold Coast is supported by voluntary funds to which both Pagans and Christians contribute. So asking them to provide better schools would be asking the African to help himself more.

Yours truly,

R. S. BLAY.

University College, London, June 10th.

BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

WEST AFRICAN ECHOES.

Education in the Sierra Leone Protectorate.

Some time ago I remarked on the impetus which the selection of literate chiefs for appointment to the Legislative Council had given to the desire for education among the chiefs of the hinterland. The movement in favour of education is spreading rapidly. The Honourable Bai Kompa, Paramount Chief of Kasse and representative of the Temne Race, has taken a step in advance by placing his daughter in one of the leading seminaries in Freetown to be educated. The broad-mindedness of this influential Chief in thus breaking through the ancient tradition and custom in the training of women cannot fail to exercise widespread effect, for, as the "Sierra Leone Guardian" says, "the Protectorate people, as a rule, take their cue from the Chief. His religion is their religion, his dislikes their dislikes." Already elevation of their Chiefs, because of their education, has attracted the attention of the people to its advantages. Mature men, as well as boys, are causing a demand for more schools, which must call the attention of the Government and the Missions to the paucity of schools in the Northern Province. The people of the hinterland being nearly all farmers there is an opportunity to set up agricultural schools which will assist them to improve the quality and increase the quantity of their produce. Under the guidance of agricultural experts it should be possible to develop two new exports—cotton and rice—to add to the country's prosperity.

Sir Hugh Clifford and the African Civil Service.

The thirteen years of Sir Hugh Clifford's service as Governor of the two principal West African Colonies have been marked by a feature which will establish his name imperishably among the peoples he has ruled so long and wisely. During the reign of Queen Victoria educated Africans were advanced to high positions in the Government of the Colonies, but as the Colonies advanced in wealth and the number of European officials increased they monopolised all the higher appointments, while African-born members of the service were more and more restricted to the lowest ranks. So far did the depreciation of their capacity go that in 1912, as Sir Hugh reminded the deputation which presented to him the farewell address of the Nigerian Civil Service Union, "It seemed to be taken as an axiom at that time, that the African educated man could not be entrusted with any other work other than that of a copyist. . . . It was suggested that no African was capable of performing the clerical work of the Sanitary Department, and that . . . the whole of the clerical work . . . should be entrusted to British non-commissioned officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps . . . a suggestion which at that period appeared to be regarded as perfectly reasonable and legitimate." If, to-day, Africans are holding high appointments in the Civil Services of the Gold Coast and Nigeria, and posts hitherto held exclusively by Europeans are being thrown open to them, they have to thank Sir Hugh Clifford for the stand taken by him against the prejudice prevalent among his staff on his arrival on the coast. Feeling that if "such preposterous proposals were to be accepted . . . then the sooner we acknowledged our task in West Africa as a failure the better," he maintained that "it must be our object to try to train Africans to fit themselves for many of the posts which then were being held by expensive Europeans," and was able to impress these novel views upon the Secretary of State. The principle that "wherever a post fell vacant which it was possible for an African to fill . . . he should be given the post rather than the European" was established by Sir Hugh's persistence. The Union, with the best opportunities for judging, could truly thank him for the large part he had taken in removing the obstacles to their legitimate aspirations to fill the higher posts. The introduction of the Franchise and the throwing open of the path of promotion to Africans will be the two outstanding fruits of Sir Hugh Clifford's "reign" in West Africa.

Chief Lewis of Krutown.

When I had occasion, a few weeks ago, to refer to the work of Mr. John Lewis, Tribal Ruler of the Krus, settled in Freetown, I little thought that his life and work were almost at an end, but the last mail brings the news of his death. The progress made by the Krus under his guidance has been phenomenal, and is his best monument. The word Kru-boy was at one time a synonym for an ignorant, uneducated, barbarian, but through Chief Lewis's vigorous educational policy there is, to-day, hardly an illiterate among the younger generation of the Kru community. His encouragement of missionary work has been equally fruitful, Krutown having been changed from a pagan village into a Christian settlement. He was an ardent patron of the Boy Scout movement, made the Kru troops of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides second to none in the Colony. In his younger days the Chief travelled widely in the marine service, and brought to his office considerable knowledge of civilised countries and peoples, and a keen desire to raise his tribesmen to a higher plane. The Kru community will be hard put to find a successor to carry on the grand work and the noble tradition of Chief Lewis.

W. F. H.

The Gambia.

OUR GAMBIA LETTER.

("African World" Correspondent.)

BATHURST, June 6.

Trade and Agriculture.

The trade season is now over. The ground nut crop has been disappointingly small, there being only 46,500 tons available for shipment, as against 58,980 tons shipped last season. Several reasons are put forward as to the cause of this, and it is stated to be due to the lack of seed at the beginning of the planting season, and to the increase in the number of strange farmers coming into the Gambia for planting. The question of seed supply has been taken up strongly with the Government, and they have agreed to distribute 580 tons of seed to the farmers for use in the coming planting season.

While the crop has been small, the vast improvement in the quality of the nut must be borne in mind, and also the excellent results obtained through the compulsory use of the rotary screens. In previous years there has always been a wide margin in the market price for nuts from Rufisque (Senegal) and for those of the Gambia, but this season the price for Rufisque nuts has been very little over the price received for Gambia nuts.

The Agricultural Department are now pushing ahead, and the Director (Mr. A. J. Brooks) is to be complimented on the remarkable strides made. The Department is now going forward with a scheme for the erection of stores all over the Protectorate in which nuts for seed will be stored, thus ensuring the colony's crop, and at the same time its largest source of revenue.

The Department is also experimenting with other produce besides ground nuts, and it is to be hoped that in time their efforts will be rewarded.

Improvements in Bathurst.

A new warehouse is being added to the Customs premises. This was badly required, and will prove a great benefit to mercantile firms.

The Customs Offices at Government Wharf have been in a bad state of repair for some time. The buildings are now in course of demolition, and modern new offices will be erected.

Electric Lighting.

Mr. Jennings has now arrived in the colony, and has commenced his duties as electrical engineer. It is expected that the electric lighting of Bathurst will soon be in operation.

Empire Day.

The celebration of Empire Day was held in Victoria Recreation Ground. His Excellency the Governor addressed the school children, who afterwards marched past and saluted the flag. In the afternoon sports were held for the school children.

The King's Birthday.

The West African Frontier Force and the Gambia Police Force paraded in McCarthy Square. The Governor inspected these forces and took the salute at the march past.

The King's health was afterwards drunk at Government House, where a large dinner party was held in the evening.

The Governor Entertained.

M. Abel Rives, Vice-Consul for Belgium, entertained the Governor to dinner on May 16. After dinner a small concert was held, the Police Band being in attendance.

The Rev. J. G. Lane has left the colony to take up an appointment at home.

Race Problem — 1925.
Africa.

NATIVE JURISDICTION.

WE learn that on May 1, there will be a meeting at Nsawam of Eastern Province Chiefs among other matters to consider a draft Native Jurisdiction Bill which would later be submitted for the views of the Chiefs of the Central and Eastern Provinces. When last we dealt with the proposed Provincial Council of Chiefs we made it abundantly clear that, however useful they might be in the domestic affairs of each province, they should steer clear of meddling in general matters of policy affecting the whole country, and if there is any one question of paramount importance to the Gold Coast as a whole, it is this question of Native Jurisdiction.

We are aware that at the proposed meeting at Nsawam there will be present the Hon. Nana Ofori Atta who, as a member of Council, will probably take the lead. Any views emanating from such a meeting would be sure to have attached to them undue weight which might prejudice and detriment the cause of the country. With all due respect to Nana Ofori Atta and his brother Chiefs of the Eastern Province, we may warn them that the subject of Native Jurisdiction is an intricate one, involving legal issues and principles which require the attention of experienced jurists, and that it would be reckless on their part to dabble in matters in which they may not have the requisite experience and thereby jeopardise the country's interests. This will be easy to understand when it is realised that when Government has to handle this same question it leaves it in the hands of its legal experts both in the Colony and at Downing Street.

Heretofore the country has been able to defeat any Jurisdiction Ordinance inimical to the fundamental principles of our constitution and the true basis of the British connection, and the course that has been adopted and found safe by experience has been for a general conference of the Chiefs of the country to be called by the Gold Coast Aborigines' Rights Protection Society, and at such a meeting to requisition the best brains the country can summon to deal with the subject matter and submit the result of the general deliberations for the consideration of Government. It is united action, guided by the best experience, intended to affect united Gold Coast. This as opposed to the course proposed to be adopted at Nsawam on May 1, is obvious, and we trust Nana Ofori Atta will be the first to realise the situation and to do the right thing.

We suggest that it is too late in the day for any body of Chiefs to disregard the place of the Aborigines Society in the body politic of the Gold Coast of which Society almost all the Chiefs of the country are members. We are aware that Nana Ofori Atta himself has from time to time attended Conferences of the Aborigines Society with the Amanhin and Ahinfu by his representatives at Cape Coast; and we are also aware of the circumstances which might make it likely for him and one or two other Chiefs to wish not to be present at a general Conference. But we would suggest to the Hon. gentleman the advisability of sinking personal predilections in the interest of the whole country. Besides the course proposed in a meeting at Nsawam whose decisions shall guide the whole country must appeal to him as irregular. If Gold Coast unity is of importance to him, surely the way to promote it on such a general issue is not for it to be considered Province by Province.

Moreover, we have indications from the last debate at the Estimates Meeting of the Legislative Council, which we regret has not yet seen the light of publication, and from questions asked by him in Council, that there is a strong inclination to promote a type of class legislation which shall safe-guard the position of an Omanhin. If that is so, then, surely, it is a general question, affecting all the Amanhin, which, therefore, should be considered by them all at a common conference.

We must ask the country to remember that when last the Legislative Council had before it the Native Jurisdiction Bill the Hon. Mr. Mckay gave a very sound advice to all concerned. In view of the arguments submitted, he urged that what was required was some such simple Bill as the 1882 Ordinance, and, if anything, much simpler. And if that is the object in view and no other motive kept in the background, it ought to be possible at a general Conference to decide upon the lines of a new Bill, which could then be left in the hands of legal experts. We trust these considerations, which we urge not in the spirit of faction, but in that of real anxiety for all to work together, will appeal to the promoters of the Nsawam meeting, and that no steps will be taken which will tend to rouse or to deepen the people's suspicions. With a little give and take and with the sinking of self, given the materials we have got, there is every prospect of the Gold Coast rising into nationhood, the main essential being the guidance of the principle that divided we fall, united we stand.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FROM reports which reach us from Kumasi the reception of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales took the same form and order as in Gold Coast proper. The Royal train having reached Kumasi at 7 0 a.m., His Royal Highness and Staff, accompanied by His Excellency the Governor and Staff, arrived at the Palaver Ground and were received by the Chief Commissioner, Ashanti, after which the Guard of Honour of the Gold Coast Regiment was inspected by His Royal Highness. While the Royal party were taking their seats in the Royal Stand, the Ashanti *Atumpan* beat out a message of welcome. These are the well-known talking drums, and the message which they bore, in Twi, was as follows:

Ohene nantsi brebre
Woye okatakyi
Woye obarima dadaw
Okatakyi a ofua otuo
Ene afona beko
Obanin bi suro obanin bi
Wo mfefo mmarima se
Woye Obarima
Ohene a Oko kyere Ahene
Demirifa due due,
Kakabotobi a mmofra suro no
Demirifa due due,

which being interpreted into English is:

A King walks majestically.
Thou art a warrior,
Thou art a brave man of renown,
A warrior proved with gun and sword in battle
Thy fellows proclaim thee a man.
Triumphant from the struggles of war,
To a ruler of Kings who comes
Who inspires awe in the greatest
Hail, Hail, Hail.

In the Royal Pavilion were His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and suite, His Excellency the Governor and Lady Guggisberg, the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti, the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories, Nana Prempeh, the Circuit Judge, the Manager of the Bank of British West Africa and a few others.

The order of seating and the procedure were the same as has been described in the Gold Coast functions. Here there were fifty-four Amanhin and Head Chiefs, and it can easily be imagined what the effect must have been with a people used to pageantry and the pomp and circumstance of state functions. The address of welcome was presented by Nana Osei Bonsu, the Omanhin of Mampon, with a memento of the occasion in the shape of a replica in Ashanti gold of a sword of State made by Ashanti goldsmiths. The address of welcome is worth preserving. Here it is:

"To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., K.T., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., M.C.

"Barima,

"The people of Ashanti greet you and welcome you. It is more than we ever hoped to expect that any member of the Royal Family or King's son would ever come to Ashanti, much less the Heir to the great White King.

"What our ancestors never dreamed of we are now experiencing.

"We thank you, Barima, for the great honour you are doing us; your coming here is a source of pride to us and will go down in the annals of our race as an inspiration to our children's children.

"We thank you that you are visiting your Father's loyal subjects and can witness the benefits he has conferred upon us, and for a Government which has given us peace and has taught us how to develop the natural wealth of our soil and show us the blessings of civilisation.

"Your gracious Father has listened to our prayers and returned to us our beloved Prempeh.

"We beg you, Barima, on your return to your country to express our gratitude and fervent loyalty.

"We people of Ashanti now present to you, Barima, through Nana Osei Bonsu, Omanhene of Mampon, a Paramount Chief of the Ashanti people, this gold Ashanti sword and on this emblem I swear by Kromanti, the Great Oath, our allegiance to the Throne of the British Empire.

May God, our Fetishes and our Stools guard and preserve you through your present Empire tour, restore you safely to Your Royal Father and give you long life and happiness."

After the exhibition of Ashanti dances His Royal Highness suitably replied to the address. After Dinner party for His Royal Highness in the evening by His Excellency concluded the functions at the classes of the community were invited. The reception of the Chiefs Nana Prempeh was old capital of Ashanti.

The second of the 1925-26 Session of the Legislative Council took place on April 24. It was a short but an important meeting. The immediate object was the third reading of the Loan Bill, the first which have to be remembered with reference to the ten years' programme. It will be remembered that at the beginning of the present Session of Ashanti now laid down a programme of development for the next ten years.

The Governor had announcements of a far-reaching nature. The first had reference to the ten years' programme. It will be remembered that at the beginning of the present Session of Ashanti now laid down a programme of development for the next ten years.

Intermediate items of interest, which have to be recorded, are the reception of ex-Service men, simi-lar functions having also taken place at Sekondi and Cape Coast, and the inspection of the old Guard by His Royal Highness.

His Royal Highness lunched with the Officers of the Gold Coast Regiment, and after the ceremony of planting trees at Accra, the Divine Service at St. Cyprian's Church, second reading of which had been taken at the Estimates meeting in February to March last. His Excellency took occasion to make certain announcements of a far-reaching nature. The first had reference to the ten years' programme. It will be remembered that at the beginning of the present Session of Ashanti now laid down a programme of development for the next ten years.

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Race Problem — 1925.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Africa's NATIVE JURISDICTION.

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We are aware that at the proposed meeting at Nsawam there will be present the Hon. Nana Ofori Atta who, as a member of Council, will probably take the lead. Any views emanating from such a meeting would be sure to have attached to them undue weight which might prejudice the cause of the country. With all respect to Nana Ofori Atta and his brother Chiefs of the Eastern Province, we may warn them that the subject of Native Jurisdiction is an intricate one, involving legal issues and principles which require the attention of experienced jurists, and that it would be reckless on their part to dabble in matters in which they may not have the requisite experience and thereby jeopardise the country's interests. This will be easy to understand when it is realised that the same questions before the Government has to handle this legislation it leaves it in the hands of experts both in the Colony and at Downing Street.

Heretofore the country has been able to defeat any Jurisdiction Ordinance to the fundamental principles of Native Jurisdiction and the true basis of connection, and the course that has been adopted and found safe by experience has been for a general Conference to consider a draft Native Jurisdiction Bill which would later be submitted for the views of the Central and Eastern Provinces. When last we dealt with the proposed Provincial Councils we made it abundantly clear that we might be in the domestic affairs of each province, they should steer clear of meddling in general matters affecting the whole country, and if there is any one question of paramount importance to the Gold Coast as a whole, it is this question of Native Jurisdiction.

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"What our ancestors never dreamed of we are now experiencing.

"We thank you, Barima, for the great honour you are doing us; your coming here is a source of pride to us and will go down in the annals of our race as an inspiration to our children's children.

"We thank you that you are visiting your Father's loyal subjects and can witness the benefits he has conferred upon us, and for a Government which has given us peace and has taught us how to develop the natural wealth of our soil and shown us the blessings of civilisation.

"Your gracious Father has listened to our prayers and returned to us our beloved Prempeh.

"We beg you, Barima, on your return to your country to express our gratitude and fervent loyalty.

"We people of Ashanti now present to you, Barima, through Nana Osei Bonsu, Omanhene of Mampon, a Paramount Chief of the Ashanti people, this gold Ashanti sword and on this emblem I swear by Kromanti, the Great Oath, our allegiance to the Throne of the British Empire.

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At 1.0 p.m., His Royal Highness lunched with the Officers of the Gold Coast Regiment, and after the ceremony of planting trees at Wesley College and the Scottish Mission by the Prince, the Governor gave an "At Home" in the afternoon at the Residency to which leading men of all classes of the commuuity were invited. The Dinner party for His Royal Highness in the evening by His Excellency concluded the functions at the old capital of Asnanti.

The second of the 1925-26 Session of the Legislative Council took place on April 24. It was a short but an important meeting. The immediate object was the third reading of the Loan Bill, the second reading of which had been taken at the Estimates meeting in February to March last. His Excellency took occasion to make certain announcements of a far-reaching nature. The first had reference to the ten years' programme. It will be remembered that at the beginning of the present Administration the Governor had laid down a programme of development for the next ten years.

it was explained at this meeting that the time had arrived after six years to cry a halt to undertaking new ventures, and that the task of Government would be to concentrate upon developments already in hand and to perfect them. This is a wise decision, and we trust it will be conformed to in its entirety.

His Excellency further went into the state of the revenue and how it would be possible to meet recurrent and extraordinary expenditure in the future. At the conclusion of his remarks upon this head he called the particular attention of Heads of Departments to the point that he expected to see in the proposals for the next Estimates that would be shortly submitted to him suggestions for the filling up of vacancies by Africans of posts held by Europeans. This is such a distinct move on the part of His Excellency. It does not mean that Europeans will be thrust out of their appointments. But it does mean that the policy of gradually filling European appointments with Africans, as vacancies occur, must now be more aggressively considered and given effect to, if we are to effect enough economies to make possible development work in education and sanitation. His Excellency then paid a glowing tribute to the African community for the spontaneous and warm-hearted reception they had given to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the Hon. Casely Hayford, supported by the Hon. Glover-Addo, on behalf of the country expressed appreciation of the efficiency which had marked Government organisation of the receptions, coupling the name of Lt.-Col Bamford, the Chief Staff Officer.

THE BLACK MAN'S BURDEN TO-DAY

THE REAL ISSUE.

THERE has just been published in Kenya Colony a Report which throws further light upon the clear-cut issue which is now being fought out from Uganda in the north, right away to Rhodesia in the south, involving some 21,000,000 of people—namely, whether the raw material we need for our factories is to be produced by a system of *(a)* Peasant Proprietorship or *(b)* White-owned plantations with coloured native labour.

Let all subordinate issues be dismissed, for this is the one which really matters. The Report now published is an interim one, submitted to the Government by a Commission appointed by the late Governor of Kenya, Sir R. Coryndon—a Commission which included in its membership the Colonial Secretary, Lord Delamere, and Mr. Maxwell, the Chief Native Commissioner.

The Commission was appointed to consider the problem of the native labour supply in relation to the production of raw material. The outstanding feature of this Report is that the Commissioners appear to have ignored altogether the importance of native production, and to have concentrated upon the methods to be adopted for supplying White plantation-owners with labour! The Commissioners recommend that greater efforts should be made to improve housing conditions, the supply of foodstuffs and firewood, and the provision of goods for sale on the plantation at cost, and they wisely remark that the "profit to the employer should lie in the increased contentment of his labour." With a good deal of courage they hint at a sad state of affairs in Kenya, and in calling for increased medical facilities they disclose the startling fact that the Principal Medical Officer estimates that in certain areas the death-rate of children under twelve is 400 to 500 per mile per annum! This is probably the highest known death-rate in any British Dependency.

But the real concern of the Commission was, of course, with labour, and in the section of statistics of workers, under its eight sub-sections, it is interesting to note that there is not the slightest reference to natives engaged in native industries. The following is the table:—

STATISTICS.

The total 1921 count of population was	2,118,405
The number of males between 15 to 40 years of age available for labour is assessed at	423,681
The demand for labour is stated to be:	
Government Departments and Works	24,500
Non-Native Estates and Domestic Service	106,500
Railway Development	15,000
Total Demand	146,000
The average number of registered natives in employment from July to October, 1924, was	136,393
The average number of registered natives during the same period was	519,050
The percentage of registered natives in employment was therefore	26.28

The recomendations of the Commission for forcing the supply are both novel and interesting, and are designed to raise the maximum labour supply at the time of the coffee harvest, which it is expected will soon reach 100,000 acres. The first suggestion is the excellent one that the native workers should receive agricultural training although the proposal to train children to "pick with *both hands*" is a little doubtful. The second main recommendation is that of improving the machinery for recruiting labourers. The third has an alarming ring about it, namely, "A judicious application of the Native Authority Ordinance." This can only mean *administrative pressure* upon natives to work for White employers. Another recommendation of the sam order is that Government officials "should encourage settlement" of natives on the settlers' farms. Finally, that the collection of the Hut Tax should synchronize, as far as possible, with the period when a maximum of labour is required by the settlers. The Commissioners quote in support of the need for pressure the action that Mr. Amery is alleged to have just approved of the "compulsory recruitment" of 4,000 labourers for railway construction.

Out of these main suggestions, three at least are that Government machinery should be utilized to add administrative pressure to the wages offered by private interests.

The production in all these territories is becoming more and more that of cotton and coffee; at a pinch we can do without coffee, but no British Government can view with other than alarm the possibility of a cotton famine. Equally it is true that the natives of these areas can produce the cotton we need. The potential cotton lands between the Nile and the Zambesi are more extensive, and the cotton population more numerous, than those with which America produces the 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 bales of raw cotton. But cotton production by peasant proprietorship is *the only sure and sound* method, and far-seeing settlers, missionaries and administrators are quietly but earnestly pushing these views, but vested interests are clinging to the plantation policy. The report just issued comes powerfully to the aid of the plantation owners, and heavily against the native peasant-proprietor. The chief menace lies in the daring proposals for the use of administrative machinery to compel the natives to work for private interests—that is the outstanding fact of the recommendations.

The organ of the settlers reinforces this view with strident editorials, including one on "Discipline," in which it is urged that mere "encouragement unsupported by a more concrete form of pressure" will fail, and what is wanted, "both in the reserves and outside them," is "Discipline."

The old question, therefore, is revived once again—namely, will the Home Government insist upon maintaining the historic Colonial policy of keeping Government machinery rigidly to its legitimate job of administration, or will it allow a grave departure by permitting a form of administrative prostitution, in the interests of private profit? It was this feature—and, indeed, this danger—which occupied so much of the later years of the late Lord Cromer, and drew from him this definition of modern slavery:—

> "The answer to the question, what do we mean by slavery? is that we reluctantly admit the necessity of compulsory labour in certain cases and that we do not stigmatize as slavery such labour when, under all possible safeguards against the occurrence of abuses, it is employed for recognized and indispensable purposes of public utility. On the other hand, we regard the system when employed for private profit as wholly unjustifiable and as synonymous with slavery."

JOHN H. HARRIS.

CHRISTIANITY AND SOUTH AFRICA

COLOR BAR BILL

Proposed Bill Condemned at Synod—"Civilization Digging Its Own Grave"—Oppressing the African in His Own Home Must Breed Trouble

From the Cape Argus

JOHANNESBURG, May 14.—A strong demand for the withdrawal of the Color Bar Bill on the ground that it is contrary to the principles of Christianity was advanced at last night's session of the Johannesburg Diocesan Synod.

The Rev. Wilfrid proposed a resolution to that effect and the debate, which ensued, was marked by serious differences of opinion between prominent members.

Mr. Parker said that no matter how far the native had advanced or qualified himself to take his place in industry, he was condemned because of the color of his skin (cries of "shame" and "question"). In his own country he was to be treated as an undesirable alien, and if he could not be deported the policy was to depress and oppress him.

The effect of such a policy would be to cause bitter anti-white feeling and to throw the natives into the arms of those who were trying to break down the whole social order.

It was deplorable to think that on the very day that the Act of Union was amended to acknowledge the sovereignty of Almighty God that the second reading of the Colour Bar Bill was sledge-hammered through the House of Assembly. It was the inalienable right of every human being no matter what his color or race might be, to make the best of his life.

It had been said that the bill was being passed in the interests of civilization. The fact of such a law being on the Statute Book would mean that civilization was digging its own grave. (Applause).

The Rev. A. P. Hill moved an amendment that every means be taken to meet the legitimate fears of the white man lest his wages be jeopardized by the inroads of cheap labor. The amendment was, by agreement, incorporated in the resolution.

Mr. Hill submitted that the fear of the white man was inspired by the unfair competition of natives who had not the same standard of living to maintain. Nothing was so calculated to embitter feeling between the two races as the idea of the white man that the native was being beaten, not because of his inferior work, but because native labor was sold cheaper and the native standard of living much lower.

Fundamental Problem

The Chancellor, Mr. C. F. Stallard, K. C., said that the Synod must realize that in tackling this problem they were dealing with one of the fundamentals, a struggle for bare existence. That is why they must aim at a high standard of living.

"We know perfectly well," said Mr. Stallard, "that if there is to be a cut-throat competition in the rougher spheres of labor between white and black, there is only one outcome. It means the elimination of the majority of the white population. In the long run it will mean that the white race can only exist here as specimens, perhaps as leaders of different trades or industries, perhaps as leaders in the church, and possibly as leaders in the State.

Race Problem - 1925. I.
Africa.

Graduation Oration.

The following is the text of the address given by Chief Inspector W. G. Bennie B.A. on the occasion when he handed Mr. Milner M. L. Kabane his certificate and hood of Bachelor of Arts, University of South Africa on the 9th May last, Graduation Day at Fort Hare, Alice:—

"In the first place I desire to congratulate the College on the return of the Principal, upon whom so much of its past success has depended, restored to health: and to express the hope that he will very soon lose all traces of the long illness he bore with such courageous cheerfulness.

I desire also to express my sincere appreciation of the honour of being asked to take part in this annual function, an honour, I take it, partly to the office I hold, and largely to the memory of those who came before me. John Bennie, William Ashton, and John Angell Bennie and May Bennie, to whom you have referred, were of the type of worker who devotes himself unreservedly to his work, and who avoids the limelight, finding sufficient reward for his devotion in the opportunity his work affords of furthering the cause of the Master he serves, and in such measure of success as he is privileged to see. I regard it also as a privilege to be able to address the students of an institution in which I cannot but be deeply interested, forming, as it does, the coping stone of our whole system of Native education. For in an official career extending to nearly a third of a century, I have derived more encouragement and satisfaction from such efforts as I have made on behalf of Native Education than ever from work in the education of those of my own colour.

Then I must congratulate the College on turning out its second graduate of the University of South Africa, and on the steady progress it makes from year to year. If the number of students has not increased as rapidly as might have been desired, there is nevertheless reason to hope that, when the Cape Education Department obtains money for the development of Native Education, and can open additional secondary schools, the number of students coming forward for admission to the College will be much increased. The lack of sufficient schools of this nature is a serious weakness in our system of education, and one of the first objects to which such additional funds as the Government may provide, will probably be the establishment of additional schools going to Standard VIII. In this connection, mention should be made of the courageous action taken by the Principal of the Healdtown Institution in opening a secondary school this year without any government aid. This is only one of many instances where missions have voluntarily provided what the government was unable to provide.

Native Teachers' Conference.

For a long while there had been existing associations of teachers in the Ciskei—long before the advent of that great teachers' Convention was known, which took place in Kingwilliam'stown in 1921. At the instigation of a few passionate brains amongst the teachers this Convention was summoned to meet there, while the different associations affiliated to one greater body called the Cape Native Teachers' Association. A sound constitution was framed to guide this stupendous body which is a voice and a mouthpiece through which the teachers can vent their feelings. The constitution which was adopted, authorizes this body to hold its meetings once in a year.

This association is the authorized voice of the Native teachers who have been labouring under great disabilities and have been mistaken to work mischief among our people by the ignorant public who do not appreciate the responsibilities devolving upon the teachers' shoulders. They have been victimized by authorities, who, under no capable understanding of the practical psychology of a natives give way to biased minds that a teacher should be censured for no reason. This association speaks with authority to the Education Department and to the managers whose evidence against the teachers sometimes is *ex parte*.

This association again stands for the safety, integrity of teachers, and the well being of our children, who by lack of understanding of their mental discipline by us, are mis'ed and given improper education which makes them worthless, men, and women. This association promises to drill those chaotic elements of childhood in children into a compact whole of ripeness.

This body has also worked with no pacific aim to bridge the gulf between the T. T. A. and the C. N. T. A. which they have mutually agreed to sink all their differences and to be one body called the C. N. T. A. and T. T. A. Under this union, as other great movements of progressing times was achieved in Kingwilliamstown—that great centre of the civilization of rising Bantudom like Egypt and Mesopotamia of early civilizations. These two associations meet annually. These two have also pledged themselves to demonstrate their solidarity at the door of the Education Department until their worthiness is realized in and out. They shall show to it that a native teacher means to rise, that all artificial barriers should be removed, and that all possible chances of evolution should be given him or her. That is the position.

The C. N. T. A, will hold its fifth annual conference at Port Elizabeth, where a reasonable and thoughtful presidential address—cogent of the moving times will be expected.

Be like Goldsmith's pedagogue.

"In arguing, too, the parson owned his skill. For e'en though vanquished, he could argue still.

P. E. MAHLANGENI,
Branch Sect.
East London,
C. P.

THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY OF NORTHERN RHODESIA.

From a Resident Correspondent.

Fort Jameson.

PRACTICALLY the whole of the tobacco grown in Northern Rhodesia is grown in the East Luangwa district, with Fort Jameson as the packing centre.

Until the 1913-4 season very little tobacco had been grown here, but in 1913, owing to the efforts of Mr. H. Rangeley, the late Secretary to the Administration, seconded by the North Charterland Exploration Co., the United Tobacco Company, Ltd., of Cape Town, sent Mr. Risien, their head leaf buyer, to visit this district. East Africa

There were only two small acreages of leaf actually to be seen, but the prospects of our being able to grow the type of leaf required were so promising that a four years' agreement was forthwith entered into between the Company and the planters. The necessary contract for a buying factory was signed and the buildings were ready to receive the 1913-4 crop. 5-28-25

From this date up to 1920 the acreages under tobacco were increased each year, though not as quickly as might have been, owing to the fact that many planters were away at the war.

For the first four years the whole of the leaf produced was shipped to South Africa. But after the termination of the agreement the position in Europe was such that another market was available, and for three years a large proportion of the crop was shipped home. 5-28-25

1921 and 1922 were unsatisfactory years as, owing to the unfortunate state of affairs in Europe, there was little competition between that market and South Africa. During this period there was consequently a decrease in the acreage planted.

The following year things began to improve considerably, and 1924 was, I believe, a record both as regards quantity and quality. There have, on the whole, been better prices, chiefly owing to the restoration of the European market. The South African market still absorbs a very considerable proportion of the leaf produced, but increasing quantities have been shipped home and disposed of at remunerative prices.

Although a certain amount of dark leaf is produced, the bulk grown can be classed as Brights and semi-Brights.

There are two packing factories, that of the United Tobacco Company, Ltd., which only packs what that company buys, and that of the North Charterland Exploration Co., Ltd., which not only packs what is grown on their own estates, but also for other people.

This latter point is of the greatest importance, as this district is capable of producing very large quantities of high-class tobacco. much more than is being

THE URGENCY OF A GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMANHIN AND THE PEOPLE.

THE question of Native Jurisdiction is so all-important and so vital to our very political existence as a people that it requires no apology from us to return to it. We publish elsewhere in this issue the circular letter which was issued by Nana Ofori Atta, Nana Essandoh and Nana Mate Kole to which we referred before in these columns. It purports to be signed by them in their individual capacity, but we cannot detach from it the significance of their position in the Legislature. They adopt the formula of addressing their fellow Amanhin as "Our good friend." This may be accidental. All the same that is the usual official form. The addressees are requested to send their replies to "Nana Ofori Atta, Omanhin of Akim Abuakwa," and we are told that he is "entrusted with the preparation of the schedule of Oaths and fees connected with Native Tribunal in all parts of the country." But we are not informed who commissioned him to this task. The signatories being three, are we to assume that the preparation of other portions of the Native Jurisdiction Bill which, according to the circular letter, "it is proposed to introduce at an early date into the Legislative Council Chamber," had been entrusted to the other two? If not, whose draft is it? If it is a Government draft what was there to prevent Government seeking for the information direct instead of through these three Amanhin? Was it to give colour to the suggestion that the Amanhin of the country had themselves applied for the introduction of the new Bill? These are natural and important considerations, and it is desirable that we should know where we are.

Since October 24, 1887, when Chief Justice Hector Macleod gave his famous judgment in Oppon v. Ackinie, the question of Native Jurisdiction has been a sore point between the Government and the people. By that judgment inherent jurisdiction was preserved unto the people, and since then the persistent effort of Government has been to whittle it down. The body of laws in the Ordinances of the Colony dealing with Native affairs all have a shy at it. Quite recently, it will be remembered, Government introduced into the Legislative Council a comprehensive Bill in which all the dangerous elements of the several enactments were incorporated and even more. The call of duty was so stern that every patriotic son of the soil was, figuratively speaking, up in arms against it. How the best legal intellect and experience of the country were requisitioned to oppose it in the Legislative Council is common history too recent to be recapitulated here. The debates are there for any one to know how strenuously unofficial members of Council, black and white, fought against it. In the end it was withdrawn, not without regret, by Government.

Does it require any argument to show that, under the circumstances, if a new Bill is suggested to come from the people themselves, it is a matter requiring the greatest circumspection lest, wittingly or unwittingly, we get ourselves into a difficult position? What stronger argument in the mouth of Government would it be, if, upon forcing the Bill now contemplated through the Council, it could be urged that your own Amanhin introduced it?

Now, it has got to be remembered that of the three Amanhin signing the circular letter Nana Essandoh is practically illiterate, and Nana Mate Kole is only slightly better. The only really educated member of the trio, capable of reading a piece of legislation and grasping its purport, is Nana Ofori Atta. In view of the political history of the country during the past five or six years and the part that the Hon. Nana Ofori Atta had played therein, was it wise to have entrusted him, if that is the case, with the passage of such an important measure as a new Native Jurisdiction Ordinance upon which depends the very political existence of the people of this country? We trow not. And for this reason it becomes an urgent necessity for the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society to lose no time in calling a general Conference to study the situation and to take measures to safeguard the position.

And there is no need for any misunderstanding. We do not allege that there is anything wrong in Government seeking the co-operation of the people in a Bill affecting Native Jurisdiction that would be satisfactory to all. And there could be no harm in any one of the three Amanhin, or all of them, drawing attention to the matter and suggesting a general Conference to consider the same. But it is certainly a different matter for them to take the initiative, call a minor conference of Eastern Province Chiefs, and presume to discuss such a vital question of general application without the sanction and the co-operation of the general body of the Chiefs and the people. We do not know the conclusions of the Nsawam Conference, or to what use it is intended to put them. But in any case we counsel all concerned to go slowly. For there is no reason why, if the regular course is adopted, we should not be able at last with the co-operation of all concerned to formulate some such simple Bill as was advised by the Hon. Mr. McKay; and we trust the spirit in which we have written will not be mistaken.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

WE referred in our last issue to the "Three Character Sketches of Three Outstanding Sons of the Gold Coast," the work of Mr. John Buckman, Mr. J. W. deGraft Johnson, Jr. and M. E. W. Adjaye. The persons written of are the Honourable G. F. Cleland, the Honourable John Sarbah, and Mr. I. M. Eshun, and the foreword is by the Rev. J. T. Roberts and is inscribed to the Youths of the Gold Coast. The papers were originally read at the anniversary celebration of the Accra High School, and they were intended primarily to stimulate the students of that School. But that they have a wider meaning, not only for the youths of the Gold Coast, but for all patriotic sons of the soil there can be no doubt.

Of the Hon. George Frank Cleland it is stated by the author that he was the son of Mr. Frank Cleland of Christiansborg, "a great-grandson of the famous Kojo Akrasnie, Manche of James Town, Accra, and a grand-nephew of Nee Attoh of the same quarter." He was born in the year 1830 and was educated at the Wesleyan School, Accra. One can fancy what the education imparted in an elementary school in those far off days must have been. Yet with this poor foundation we find the subject of the sketch successfully distinguishing himself in every sphere of activity until he becomes a member of the Legislative Council. But we are anticipating. It appears that the first calling of Mr. Cleland was that of a Teacher in the same school where he had received his training, having been transferred later to Prampram where his name is said to have become a household word.

After a while he left teaching for trading, in which he became quite prosperous, and was soon recognised by the members of his community as a rising leader. Those were the days when the country was not free from occasional brushes with our neighbours the Ashantis, and how he distinguished himself in these wars is vividly told by the writer. He was successively engaged in the Awoonor War of 1866 and in the Ashanti War of 1873-1874 and, was instrumental in preventing a civil strife between the James Town and Ussher Town people. He was created a Justice of the Peace the first African, it is said, to hold the post in the country.

It is recorded of him that he was remarkably hospitable, having entertained illustrious Amanhin and other distinguished personages whose stay at Accra at the time was made pleasant and agreeable by him. He rose to become the Regent of the Stool of James Town on the death of Manche Kojo Ocu of James Town, which responsible position he filled with distinction and satisfaction. So trusted was he that white and black in the public life of the country sought his advice freely; and so thoroughly trusted was he by the Government that his political career was crowned with a seat in the Legislative Council as an Unofficial member. He died in the year 1837 in his 57th year. He was the father of the present Mrs. Mercy Addo, the wife of the Hon. J. Glover-Addo.

Race Problem - 1925. II

Africa.

Gold Coast Leaders

The life of the Hon. John Mensah Sarbah was so full in its many activities for a hurried review. But Mr. Johnson has so handled his subject that it becomes easy to deal with salient points in the life of this remarkable and distinguished man. The name of John Mensah Sarbah, we believe, will go down to posterity as one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of the sons of the Gold Coast. He was born in June 1864, the year which saw the birth of a generation of Gold Coast intellectuals who have all filled important places in the life of the country, and most of whom unfortunately have finished their work.

A typical African, the eldest son of the late Hon. John Sarbah, John Mensah Sarbah was educated at the Wesleyan Boys' High School at Cape Coast, having for contemporaries such men as the late Attoh-Ahuma, Samuel Kaye, Egyir Asaam, Mark Hayford, and others. He was not particularly brilliant at school out here, but his talents had remarkable development at Queen's College, Taunton, where he took the London Matriculation in 1884. He joined Lincoln's Inn and was called to the Bar in 1887, being the first Gold Coast man to have had that honour and distinction. But it must be recorded that there were local practitioners of the day, men who had received first class education in England and were the equals in forensic ability of any full-fledged Barrister. Among them were Charles Bannerman, James Brew, Edmund Bannerman, George Blankson, Emminsang and others.

There was a solidity about John Mensah Sarbah which early impressed both the Bench and the Bar and easily won the respect and the confidence of both and of the public in general. He was intensely patriotic and endeavoured from the start to lead his countrymen along those practical paths which would preserve unto them their ancient political rights and heritage. It was this trait of his character which made him so keen an educationist and one of the promoters of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society. He was an intense believer in the capabilities of his countrymen, and considered that with like opportunities there was nothing to prevent the Gold Coast cutting a niche for herself among nations as Japan had done. It was a question of the people of the Gold Coast looking ahead, unlearning much that was unnecessary, and developing along national lines.

With such a man and with the foundation in sound education that had been laid it was a most natural thing that his pen should not be idle, and he was in turn a journalist and an author. He was the proprietor and editor of the *Gold Coast People*, and the very title showed the belief which he had in them. He was a leader, but he did not drag the people after him so much as an endeavour to inspire them to noble ends.

He wrote at a time when authorship on scientific subjects was rare among Africans, and his "Fanti Customary Law" and "Gold Coast National Constitution" were talked of in three continents, and became the standard works on the subjects with which they deal. It is believed that he left behind a deal of important material, and it is to be hoped that some day some competent hand will suitably make use of them for the public good.

A man of such distinguished parts was bound in course of time to find himself a member of the Legislative Council. But before then he had the honour of representing his country in that famous fight against the Crown Lands Bill, the history of which will go down to posterity. His work as a member of the Council subsequently was sound and vigorous throughout, and it must have been with a sense of pain that he differed wholly from the then Chief Justice, Sir Brandford Griffith, upon the question of the Native Jurisdiction Bill. In what aspects they differed are all set out in the recent debates in the Legislative Council upon the proposed New Native Jurisdiction Bill. But it is remarkable that in the light of present-day experience the learned Chief Justice appears to have held the more correct view of the likely effects of the measure. Still we are certain that John Mensah Sarbah acted according to his lights in the matter.

Such a keen educationist he was that he has left memorials of his patriotism in the history of the country. Mfantsipim School, the Fanti National Educational Trust Fund and other foundations bear the impress of his great personality. In the height of his career even John Mensah Sarbah was misunderstood, and he was not without enemies. Still that was nothing to be wondered at. He was great nevertheless. He lived like a great man, and died as such fully in harness.

The last of the trio is Ishmael Mahomadu Ethan late of Dixcove. This was another remarkable man who with little education fought his way up to affluence and a place in the country's history. His gift lay in careful observation and indomitable perseverance. How with great difficulty and deprivations he searched for the precious ore which was traced by Geologists in the quartz which he unearthed in the shape of manganese is a story worth preserving for the encouragement of our youth. On the whole the little booklet before us is replete with stimulation to patriotic endeavour on the part of the present generation, and we trust its lessons will not be lost upon them.

The Philosophy of White Supremacy.

This is certainly the age of white supremacy over all the black communities of the world, not by virtue of any quality of a higher moral standard and civilisation which the whiteman in every part of the globe, arrogates to himself, but because it is the age of the mighty gun powder — the demon of white supremacy. Modern democracy wears not a different aspect and principles from those of the Roman or Grecian oligarchy. It is a democracy only of white skin peoples of the world, and its philosophy is that of brazen spoliation and the violation of human rights of all peoples whose colour is black. The whiteman the world over is maintaining great institutions of learning to fit his man and woman for the citizenship of the whole universe. For instance, the white people of South Africa have come to us from every continent. They are of different races and divergent national traditions; but because their colour is white they are admitted in the country with the same rights and privileges as those who were born and bred in South Africa. The brotherhood of the European races, against the rising tide of colour, has never been so consistently fostered as now by all the civilised countries of the world. The black peoples wherever they reside, under so called civilised authority are not respected in the matter of their human rights. The continent of Africa, divided as it is into spheres of political influence, is the nest of all forms of tacit conspiracy to keep the blackman down at the bottom rung of the ladder of civilisation and economic improvement. The continent of Africa, approximately 12,000,000 square miles, with the exception of Liberia and Abyssinia, is under the iron rule of white domination; and 130,000,000 of African people are without land which they can call their own. There is great unrest in Africa amongst the intelligent black inhabitants through the oppressive laws under which they live. In the Union of South Africa the Pact Prime Minister General Hertzog has declared a war of starvation on the "Kaffirs" in preference of white labour in all spheres of employment, and colour bar laws are being feverishly rushed through the House of Assembly to prevent the further employment of the Bantu. Truly! the whiteman's religion [christianity] has failed to interpret to us the meaning of life in the world, and through that, thousands and thousands of Africans are fast embracing the religion of Mecca instead of "kafirs" they are now called "Hadjis." In the four Provinces of the Union of South Africa, where religion was exclusively Christian for a century or two, there are over 400 South African Natives who have become Mahomedans. Taxation without representation in the State Councils is the form of administration obtaining in all governmental institutions of the white races in the continent of Africa, and the black man is treated, in most instances, like a helot. Blackmen are rigidly undermined and cunningly discriminated against in those fuller rights of governmental appointments to which white people, irrespective of condition, are nominated and elected. The system of education in South Africa for blacks is inferior to that of the white citizens of the country and the conditions have been much accentuated by the anti native policy of the government of General Hertzog, who in 1912 revolted against the political absorption of the Dutch community by the English. The policy of white governments in the continent of Africa is that of injustice and fear. The starva-

tion wage which [illegible] labourer receives to support his family and himself for long working hours is a callous scandal in the annals of christian civilization.

We know of Natives with large families who are compelled to work for 2d. and 4d. per day of 16 hours in the Union of South Africa, and upon whom a poll tax of £2 per capita is imposed by the government. Give us a man in any part of the world who can be really honest and loyal under such revolting economic conditions. The policy of the governments which have succeeded in imposing their rule over the heads of 130,000,000 black peoples of Africa is calculated not to christianize the natives, but rather to turn them into desperadoes by by destroying their national traditions through economic strangulation.

As to the question of intermarriage, the white races in the continent are the greatest sinners and offenders. Hardly for three centuries has the whiteman permanently made his home amongst the "savages" in South Africa, but there are already three quarters of a million population of bastards of which he is the responsible father. Go to Egypt and Soudan, East Africa and Uganda, Gold Coast and Ashanti, Nigeria, Algeria, Senegal and Niger, German South West, Cameroons, Congo, Angola, Somaliland, Nyasaland, Rhodesia, Zanzibar, Fernando Po, Great Elobi, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Tunis, Corsica, Guinea Coast, Tripoli, Togoland, Eritrea, Sahara, Bechuanaland, Basutoland, Swaziland, Gambia, Morroco, Dahomey Gunabon, and you will find in each of these Protectorates or Crown Colonies a number of coloured peoples whose fathers are Europeans. In South Africa 2½ centuries ago there was no such a thing as coloured, to-day they are in thousands—the work of Europeans. The African Natives, as he is known, cherishes a natural prejudice against intermarriage in any form with any European woman. It is not for their austere morals or natural greatness that the Europeans are respected or feared by the Natives of Africa, but because of their military superiority. It is at the point of the bayonet that the black peoples of the world have submitted to all kinds of outrages and atrocities. And it is the blackman's revenge, as the wronged are sure to have it sooner or later, which the whiteman fears. When he thinks of it his nerves turn cold, conscious of his past policy against the advancement of the black peoples the world over. As sure as the sun is shining, the black man will not for ever be the bottom dog; and the only security for future peace is just laws and equality of opportunity for both black and white wherever circumstances force them to live together.

Notes.

Books;

1. "Education in East Africa. (10/- post free, Bookstore, Lovedale), This is a magnificent book of 416 pages by the American Commission headed by Dr. Jesse Jones and which included Prof. J. E. K. Aggrey, M.A., the brilliant intellectual Native of the Gold Coast. All that need be known about Native education in Africa, including South Africa, is contained in this new book and its predecessor "Education in Africa" published two years earlier by the same body. The new volume is larger and more scientific than the earlier, the work more painstaking, more authoritative and better subdivided. It is copiously illustrated. We hope to give a detailed review in due course.

2. "The Light—Ukukanya" by M. W. Waters, L.L.A. (Lovedale Press 1/9) is a drama of the history of the South African Bantu from 1600 to 1924 in 36 pages by the same author who wrote the splendid "Nongqause" which we noticed recently. This extensive, intricate and delicate subject is duly condensed, due proportion being given to the landmarks that take us from the Xosa boys on the Kei River before the advent of Europeans, down to the first graduation ceremony of the Fort Hare College. It is written for the benefit of the Bantu who have real dramatic gifts requiring to be suitably cultivated by means of good patriotic material. We hope all concerned in teaching our people will speedily buy this book, for we are sure they will find it useful. 3. "The white man at the Cross Roads" by Rev. Allen Lea (Methodist Press 6d., obtainable at the "Imvo" Office) is an excellent pamphlet of 27 pages on the Native Problem. It is collated from a series of impressive articles that had appeared in the "Daily Dispatch," and we commend it to all intelligent Native teachers and leaders. "The Report of the Superintendent General of Education for 1923 and 1924' has now appeared (5/ Cape Times, Cape Town) and contains the report of Chief Inspector W. G. Bennie B.A. (pages 69—80) which will be interesting to all Native teachers, just as will the summary by Dr. Viljoen on pages 46—56. It presages important developments that are to follow when the new revenues from Native Taxation accrue.

AFRICAN PEONAGE IS WORSE THAN SLAVERY IS REPORT TO LEAGUE

NEW YORK CITY, July 16.—(Special Dispatch).—A system of complicated peonage, said to be more terrifying and barbarous than chattel slavery, is being practiced in Portuguese Africa according to Dr. Edward A. Ross, sociology professor, who has just made a report to the League of Nations, with the request that the League investigate the matter.

The report charges Portuguese colonial officials with allowing planters and other private interests the right to use the natives in the production of farm products.

That the system is worse than slavery is revealed in the fact that not only is the peon not paid, but often is not fed. Women with babies on their backs are made to work like the men, the report points out. Some of the gangs of natives are flogged with the sjambock, or hippo lash, a weapon of the most unthinkable kind of torture.

Dr. Ross, who holds the chair of sociology at the University of Wisconsin, undertook the investigation with the aid of his colleague, Dr. R. Meville Cramer, a New York physician. Current stories of brutality and oppression of Blacks in Portuguese Africa actuated him to make the report to the League of Nations, with the hope that its commission of slavery would speedily take up the matter.

This is a confirmation of the report made several years ago by J. Anderson Sprigg, a globe trotter, who charged the Portuguese with the same indict-

PORTUGUESE SCORED FOR POLICY IN AFRICAN COLONIES

(Preston News Service.)

Washington, D. C., July 17.—According to the New York World, the most damaging charges against thePortuguese administration of its African colonies, together with a request that the League of Nations slavery commission take up the matter, are contained in a report received by Secretary Drummond from 108 prominent Americans.

It is said that the document is the result of an investigation carried on in Portuguese colonies during July, August and September, 1924, by Dr. R. Melville Cramer, of New York, and Edward K. Ross, professor of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin. The document was accompanied by a letter asking that "it be placed before the temporary slavery commission at its next session."

An excerpt from the report says: "We make no recommendations, except to request the most careful consideration, in the hope suitable measures will be adopted abolishing compulsory labor and other injustices inflicted upon these people."

Do not Wish to be Meddlers.

"We do not desire unfairly to criticise or otherwise embarrass the government of Portugal, which, we feel confident, will do all in its power to abolish the evil practices in its colonies."

Some of the Evils Cited.

The report, which indicates the investigation was thorough, enumerates more than one hundred cases of almost inconceivable conditions. One of the chief evils cited is the alleged practice of the government in "farming out" to planters all workers unable to pay head tax. These victims are forced to work in the fields for months, and sometimes for years, without pay. It charges that deportation of workers by the thousand is a widespread practice.

Women Made to Work With Babies on Backs.

It is common to see women with babies on their backs forced to do road work. The head tax usually requires six months of each year to work ol. Flogging is a most common practice, and medical attention is practically unknown. The report characterizes the situation as infinitely worse than slavery.

Race Problem - 1925.

Africa.

BASUTOLAND IS SWITZERLAND OF SOUTH AFRICA

12,000 Ft. Mountains, Snow and Waterfalls Make Real Tourists' Country

NATIVES ARE INTELLIGENT

Whites Forbidden To Enter Except By Very Special Permission

There is at least one country in the world where a man treats his mother-in-law with due deference. In Basutoland he must not look at her, as he passes he hides his face as a token of respect.

Basutoland, a wild mysterious country bordered by the Orange Free State, and separated from Natal by the mighty ramparts of the Drakensmountains, will be visited by the Prince of Wales in his tour through Africa, resulting it is hoped, in lowering some of the barriers which have hereto hindered the advance of civilization.

The position of the Basutos is interesting, as they are governed direct from the Crown, the majority of the Native Chiefs being opposed to inclusion in the "Union of South Africa." The Basuto Council is composed entirely of natives under the presidency of Resident Commissioner. Land is divided on the Communal principal, there are no individual proprietors, and whites are forbidden to settle in the country without special permission.

The Switzerland of South Africa

Someday Basutoland will be recognized as the Switzerland of Africa. Few people realize that South Africa is bigger than Europe

Were such magnificent scenery in the northern hemisphere it would long ago have been exploited and overrun with tourists.

But even at the cost of roughing it under canvas, or spending a few nights in the Bushman's caves, the gorges and passes well repay a visitor; peaks such as "Mont-aux-Sources" for instance, Campagne Castle or Giants Castle raise from 10,000 to 12,000 feet high. Waterfalls coming over cliffs in an unbroken leap of 600 feet, such as the Maletsungan Falls. The famous Tugela gorge is perhaps the most spectacular, but Goodoo Gorge also very beautiful with Goodoo Parr as a minature "Khyber," where the Basutos and their trains of ponies laden with grain and wood continually are passing.

Some Basuto Customs

All marriages are arranged by proxy, and the betrothal announced at a feast. But the fiances shyly retire to the mountains till this function is over.

On the morning of the wedding the bride's schoolfellows escort her to the house of her mother-in-law, carrying her trousseau, which consists of blankets, brooms, and cooking pots, with a sleeping mat. The bride's face is still covered, but she can be bribed by a wedding present of two tickies (3d pieces) to raise her mask.

When she arrives at her future home she refuses to do a hand's turn until her trousseau is paid for. Then until a few of her children are born her own mother must not enter the hut.

When a Basuto is dying, friends leave the hut, and ouside raise lamentation, like the keeping of the Irish. After death the body is rolled in a blanket and buried in a sitting position with food beside it.

When the head of the family dies, his elder wives are divided among his brothers, while the youngest wife is given to his own son. This keeps the cattle in the family!

A month after the death an ox or sheep is roasted whole, and before the feast the liver is cut out and handed to the eldest son; he takes a bite and spits it out. This is the last funeral rite, and it is bad Basuto form to mention deceased again, unless when struck by lightening.

And they do not always mention him even then.

THE PILLARS OF NIGERIAN LAND TENURE.

To the Editor of WEST AFRICA.

Sir,—If the speech of Lord Leverhulme at the Cannon Street Hotel is correctly reported, he appears to have fallen into a first-class error. It seems quite clear that the remarks of Lord Leverhulme referred to Northern Nigeria, where he said: "No Englishman is allowed to purchase freehold land from a willing Native." Of course not, for the simple reason that "freehold title" does not exist in Northern Nigeria and is almost without exception unknown to African laws of land tenure. It is true, of course, that the impact of European civilisation has broken through African customary laws in many parts. Northern Nigeria, however, is one of the areas which have withstood the encroachments of the European land system.

The three main pillars of Northern Nigeria land tenure are:—(1) All land, whether occupied or not, is vested in the people; (2) the Governor, as paramount chief and trustee, is the controller; (3) the Governor, in his capacity as paramount chief, can only alienate land in accordance with Native customary law. (This precludes the alienation of ownership). It is true, of course, that leaseholds for monetary payments are also a violation of African customary law, but what has been preserved to the people of the country is the *ownership*. This does not mean that the situation is satisfactory. Efforts must be made to reduce bureaucratic and expand popular control. Again, much greater effort should be made to secure more produce from the land, and Lord Leverhulme is on much safer ground when he urges that reforms should be directed towards these two efforts. At the same time, so far as oils are concerned, the Lever group has not fared badly at the hands of the Native producers of West Africa, and, given adherence to right policy, oil and cocoa will continue to flow in ever-increasing volume from the West African territories. Nor is this all; we can, if we choose, obtain all the raw cotton we need from Africa, but we shall prejudice our efforts in this direction if we start by smashing up Native systems of land tenure, for almost every African war in the last fifty years has emanated from attempts to interfere with the land.

JOHN H. HARRIS.

Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road,
London, S.W.1. March 20th.

COTTON GROWING IN P.E.A.

Beira, March 6, 1925.

MR. THOMAS HONEY, the Director of Agriculture, contributes to the *Beira News* an interesting article on cotton growing in the territory, in the course of which he reviews the results of inquiries made by him while on leave in England.

The general opinion of brokers on cotton from the Mozambique Territory was decidedly favourable, and the value put on local cotton varied between 250 and 350 points on American middling. The points most stressed by brokers were that it was undesirable to grow different varieties of cotton in the same districts, that tattooed cotton was not wanted by the trade, that only fully ripe bolls should be picked, and that diseased, stained and immature cotton should always be kept separate. On the other hand, it was only necessary for growers or ginners to grade into (*a*) good clean cotton, (*b*) slightly stained, and (*c*) stained.

As cotton was shipped last season from Mozambique to Hamburg, reports were also obtained from that port, and proved to be very similar to those of Liverpool brokers. The chief criticism from Germany was that sometimes as many as three qualities had been found in the same bale. As a bale is sold on the basis of the lowest grade contained therein, growers will realise what loss they entail for themselves by such practices.

Now that a special cotton expert has been appointed by the Mozambique Company to advise growers, Mr. Honey considers the success of the industry in the territory to be assured, if only growers and ginners will pay attention to his advice and the warnings contained in the above expert reports.

Beira Trade with Hull.

Mr. Ernest Morison, Director of Publicity for Hull, who has reached Beira after making a tour of South Africa and Rhodesia, is an apostle of direct trade between South and East Africa and the port of Hull.

His inquiries in the Union have led him to believe that a direct service with Hull would be welcomed by business interests, and there seems no reason why Beira should not send at least a portion of its maize shipments to that destination.

Mr. Morison, who has just left Beira for Mombasa, will inquire into the groundnut situation in Tanganyika and Kenya, and possibly also in the Sudan.

WEST AFRICAN NATIVES' TRIUMPH.

OKRIKA CHURCH BUILT ENTIRELY BY THE PEOPLE.

Okrika Church, Southern Nigeria, will stand as a monument to the skill of West African Natives, by whom it has been entirely built under the supervision of an English foreman.

It is of rock-faced concrete blocks with plain-face dressings to door and window openings. The columns supporting the nave, arches and piers, are pointed with white mortar, which gives a pleasing effect. The tracery windows at the east and west ends are of grey terra-cotta, having tooled finish, which give the appearance of natural worked stone.

The church has a nave with clerestory windows above and two side aisles. The roof is supported on heavy timber principals of ornamental design, which gives the interior an imposing and dignified appearance.

All the window openings are fitted with metal casements, filled in with cathedral tinted lead lights.

Vestry accommodation is provided for choir and clergy. The church has seating capacity for 1,500 worshippers.

Lt.-Col. Moorhouse, C.M.G., D.S.O., laid the foundation stone, and the contractors provided a silver engraved trowel for the ceremony.

The church has not yet been dedicated for worship, as the interior fittings, including chancel screen, pulpit and choir stalls, all of which are to be in oak, are not completed.

The cost of the church was £14,000, the whole of which was subscribed by the people of Okrika, without outside assistance, and a further sum of £5,000 is being expended on fittings.

The church, when completed, will be one of the finest and most beautiful ecclesiastical buildings in West Africa.

The contractors responsible for the carrying out of the work are Messrs. H. E. B. Greene and Co., Knight Street, Liverpool, whose name is well known in all the British West African Colonies on account of the number and importance of the buildings they have erected. Their building superintendent, Mr. T. Hodgson, had control of the work from the laying of the foundations to the completion of the building.

The clock has five-feet dials on three faces of tower, and was supplied by Messrs. Joyce and Co., of Whitchurch.

Paramount Chief Daniel O. Kalio was foremost in the movement for building a church worthy of the purpose

or which it is to be used, and he is to be congratulated upon the result of his labours.

A bronze tablet has been fixed in the interior, on which is the following inscription in raised letters :—

This tablet is to commemorate the efforts of the following Chiefs of Okrika and their people who alone subscribed the funds to erect this Church in the years of Our Lord, 1923-24.

Chief Daniel O. Kalio, Chief Samson I. Adoki, Chief Wankama Oriobo, Chief Abibo Oba, Chief John Fibersima, Chief Okorio Okojagu, Chief John A. George, Chief Ebenebo Dikibo, Chief James Fuafika, Chief Ogudire Tado, Chief Amgbara Iringesibo, Chief Alali Jama, Chief Alamieka, Chief Sika Nonju, Chief Okuru Legba Ra, Chief Bob Daka, Chief Dede Asejeme, Chief Ogans, Sub-Chief Obianime Amafina, Sub-Chief John Opuiyo, Sub-Chief Aseminaso Iganibo, Sub-Chief Minanyo Adinemibo, Sub-Chief Sampson Owoyi, Sub-Chief Charles Kalegeleme, Sub-Chief Nyengirefaka Okari, Sub-Chief Ivalla Igia, Sub-Chief Oyika Ibannibolo, Sub-Chief Isefiema Igbanibo, Sub-Chief Daa Sunday, Sub-Chief Aderika Osika, Sub-Chief Tom A. Amakiri, Sub-Chief Gbasibo Opula, Sub-Chief Wariboko Kulo, Sub-Chief Tanime Ofokome, Sub-Chief Poro Otobo, Sub-Chief Iburu Angele, Sub-Chief Alibo Abaji, Sub-Chief Fibikas, Sub-Chief Edward Ikpuku, Sub-Chief Akpana, Sub-Chief Kwenisi.

A gold key was presented by the contractors for the opening ceremony.

Pictures of this notable building appear elsewhere.

WEST AFRICA IN PARLIAMENT.

Cotton Growing in Nigeria.

On Monday, in the House of Commons—

Mr. Roy Wilson asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he is aware that cotton of a quality equal to a fully-middling American is being grown in Northern Nigeria; that the climatic conditions there are in every way satisfactory for the growing of cotton and that ample land is available; that the development of cotton growing in Nigeria during the last 10 years has been extremely slow; and that the crop last year available for export was only 15,000 bales; and, in view of these facts and of the urgent necessity of promoting the growth of cotton within the Empire, whether he will instruct the Governor of Nigeria to appoint a committee to consider and report upon the best steps to take to develop more rapidly the growing of cotton in Northern Nigeria?

The Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. Ormsby-Gore): The answer to the first part of the question is in the affrmative, as is also the answer to the second part as regards much of the Northern Provinces. During the last 10 years the short Native variety of cotton has been almost entirely replaced for export by the much more valuable longer staple variety, of which in 1915-16 121 bales were exported, 1919-20, 3,568 bales, in 1923-24, 15,035 bales. I am satisfied that the Nigerian Agricultural Department, which is working in close co-operation with the British Cotton Growing Association and the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, is working on right lines, and that as further railways and increased transport facilities become available the export of cotton of good quality will go on increasing. Accordingly, I see no sufficient reason to ask the Governor to appoint a local committee on this question.

Mr. R. Wilson: Is the hon. gentleman aware that there is a number of very able business men on the Legislative Council of Nigeria, who would give advice on the subject of increasing the growth of cotton in Northern Nigeria and improving the present position?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: We rely in this very expert matter very largely on specially-trained agricultural officers, and on the co-operation of the two great associations originating in Lancashire and dealing with cotton. We have their advice and assistance, and I think it is quite sufficient and better than a purely local committee of merchants dealing with other goods.

Colonel Wedgwood: Will there be no change in the principle hitherto adopted in Nigeria, of having Native cultivation rather than plantation cultivation?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: That does not arise out of the original question. There is no suggestion, except that made by Lord Leverhulme, for altering the present policy of the Government of Nigeria. and I dealt with that in my speech a few days ago.

Tin and the Niger Co.

Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he is aware that the Niger Company acts as forwarding and handling agents for a large number of companies operating on the tin fields; that the company, although receiving half the royalties on minerals, make applications through their representatives from time to time for mineral areas, particularly tin, and obtain grants in direct opposition to the tin companies, for whom they act as agents; and that some of these companies are small concerns and have practically no other choice than to appoint the Niger Company as their agents; and whether he will consider taking steps to protect the rights and interests of these smaller companies?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative, but I see no reason for interference by Government with such legitimate business of the Niger Company.

Gold Coast (Cocoa Exports).

Mr. Livingstone asked the Secretary of Sate for the Colonies the value of the exports of cocoa from the Gold Coast in the years 1913 and 1924, respectively?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: The value of the exports of cocoa from the Gold Coast in 1913 was £2,489,218. Complete statistics for the calendar year 1924 are not available but the value for the months January to November was £5,877,381. From the information at present available it may be estimated that the value for the complete year will be £7,237,200.

Nigerian Exports.

Mr. Livingstone asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies the value of the exports from Nigeria for the years 1913 and 1924, respectively?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: Excluding exports of specie, the figures are:—1913, £7,097,646; 1924, £14,427,727.

MORE WHITES WANTED.

South Africa Overpopulated With Blacks, Says Mr. Lurie.

J. B. Lurie of the Orange Free State, known as the Potato King of Africa, who has been at the Hotel Astor before leaving for an inspection of some of our scientific farms, says that South Africa is in need of white population.

"We can do with more people in South Africa," said Mr. Lurie. "You have too many people here and we have too few—only about 1,000,000 white people and 6,000,000 blacks in our entire country. There are great opportunities in South Africa for men with some means. The Orange Free State is noted for agriculture in general, as the soil is very good there and almost everything can be grown—wheat, rye, oats, maize, potatoes and fruit all thrive there. There are many large orchards and most of our fruit is exported to England.

The Union Government will help to finance a man who buys land there—that is, they will advance him about two-thirds of the price of the land; although I would not advise any one to go there without some money. Labor is very cheap, which is a big thing for those engaged in agriculture, and sheep farming is another excellent thing. Conditions are improving there and this promises to be an excellent year.

"Many people think we live in a jungle, but this is not the case. We have some very fine cities; Bloemfontein, which used to be the capital of the Orange Free State, is the cleanest town in South Africa and has the best sanitary arrangements. Cape Town and Johannesburg are both fine cities. The life is very easy and comfortable down there, and climatic conditions are excellent."

While the average farm is about 1,000 acres, according to Mr. Lurie, he himself has 6,500 acres, about 5,000 of which are under cultivation and 2,000 acres of this are in potatoes.

"We begin planting about the end of November and finish the latter part of December," he said. "Then we harvest from the end of April to the end of September, and all our potatoes are sold in South Africa. We do not fertilize very heavily, as we cannot depend upon rain as you do in this country, but we average about 450 bushels to the acre. Our maize and wool we export.

"Your great skyscrapers here impress one tremendously by their massiveness and New York is quite the busiest city I have ever seen—much busier than London—although I should not like to live here. The crowds are interesting to see but not to live with, I should say."

Boycotting Native Labour.

(By S. M. B. Ncwana.)

We never understand the nature and constituent parts of a thing so well as when we ourselves have made the thing. Next to making it is the seeing of it made, but we have neither of these advantages, we ought to at least if possible, to get a trne description of the origin of the thing and of the manner in which it was put together. It would seem, in the highest degree of probability that the European public of greater South Africa have not the clear notion of how the Russian revolution of 1917 come into being, and, if they have made themselves well acquainted with the fundamental facts which culminated in the obliteration of the Czar's entire regime—a tyrannical system of government which unequivocally robbed the poor Russian peasanty of their patrimony, they would certainly not hesitate in propounding a more equitable system of Native Administration. The bloody Russian revolution of 1917 was brought forth by hypocrisy and perfidy on the part of the governing class of that great historical country. The land required for the needs of the peasantry was partitioned by the Czar among his feudal barons, and they in turn, subinfeudated to the Lords of the Manors. The autocratic government of the Czar by eliminating the right of the peasantry to own land and taking away their personal freedom, the miliions of Russian peasants then became serfs of the capitalist and landowners. As the supreme issue of a peasant's life was the security of land tenure failing which the working classes of Russia staked all in battle, to redeem their natural rights, irrespective of the forces against them. Thns the bloodiest revolution the world has ever seen, for democracy was fought to a finish. We have heard how the Russian peasants devasted and plundered the country, how the revolutionist laid the foundation, for personal freedom and liberty as against that pauperism, that degradation, that disgraceful immorality, that fearful prevalence of crimes of all sorts, which now strongly mark the character of this nation which was formerly the land of virtue and of plenty. One would suppose that the calamity which overtook and swept the last aristocratic society of Russia would serve as an eye opener to the existing powers of the same breed the world over. But we find that most civilized communities of to day tolerating laws which permit of individuals, if they choose to do so, occupying lands in a manner unhelpful to the majority of the population who go by the name of British subjects.

The wretched conditions against which the Russian peasantry revolted, durin? the reign of the Czar are practically the same as those obtaing in the Union of South Africa—a system of government trading under the style of democracy. Take from the black man his political freedom, take his cattle, or even his wife and children, and he will still tolerate the unjustice, but touch his land, back the robbery with aeroplanes, machine guns and "heavies" and the black man will still face the "bloody war" with primitive spear, bow and arrow. With no land on which to fall back to when avenues of employment are completely restrict-

(To be Continued)

or which it is to be used, and he is to be congratulated upon the result of his labours.

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Mr. Ormsby-Gore : That does not arise out of the original question. There is no suggestion, except that made by Lord Leverhulme, for altering the present policy of the Government of Nigeria, and I dealt with that in my speech a few days ago.

Tin and the Niger Co.

Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he is aware that the Niger Company acts as forwarding and handling agents for a large number of companies operating on the tin fields; that the company, although receiving half the royalties on minerals, make applications through their representatives from time to time for mineral areas, particularly tin, and obtain grants in direct opposition to the tin companies, for whom they act as agents; and that some of these companies are small concerns and have practically no other choice than to appoint the Niger Company as their agents; and whether he will consider taking steps to protect the rights and interests of these smaller companies?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore : The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative, but I see no reason for interference by Government with such legitimate business of the Niger Company.

Gold Coast (Cocoa Exports).

Mr. Livingstone asked the Secretary of Sate for the Colonies the value of the exports of cocoa from the Gold Coast in the years 1913 and 1924, respectively?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore : The value of the exports of cocoa from the Gold Coast in 1913 was £2,489,218. Complete statistics for the calendar year 1924 are not available but the value for the months January to November was £5,877,381. From the information at present available it may be estimated that the value for the complete year will be £7,237,200.

Nigerian Exports.

Mr. Livingstone asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies the value of the exports from Nigeria for the years 1913 and 1924, respectively?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore : Excluding exports of specie, the figures are :—1913, £7,007,646; 1924, £14,427,727.

MORE WHITES WANTED.

South Africa Overpopulated With Blacks, Says Mr. Lurie.

J. B. Lurie of the Orange Free State, known as the Potato King of South Africa, who has been at the Hotel Astor before leaving for an inspection of some of our scientific farms, says that South Africa is in need of white population.

"We can do with more people in South Africa," said Mr. Lurie. "You have too many people here and we have too few—only about 1,000,000 white people and 6,000,000 blacks in the entire country. There are great opportunities in South Africa for men with some means. The Orange Free State is noted for agriculture in general, as the soil is very good there and almost everything can be grown—wheat, rye, oats, maize, potatoes and fruit all thrive there. There are many large orchards and most of our fruit is exported to England.

The Union Government will help to finance a man who buys land there—that is, they will advance him about two-thirds of the price of the land; although I would not advise any one to go there without some money. Labor is very cheap, which is a big thing for those engaged in agriculture, and sheep farming is another excellent thing. Conditions are improving there and this promises to be an excellent year.

"Many people think we live in a jungle, but this is not the case. We have some very fine cities; Bloemfontein, which used to be the capital of the Orange Free State, is the cleanest town in South Africa and has the best sanitary arrangements. Cape Town and Johannesburg are both fine cities. The life is very easy and comfortable down there, and climatic conditions are excellent."

While the average farm is about 1,000 acres, according to Mr. Lurie, he himself has 6,500 acres, about 5,000 of which are under cultivation and 2,000 acres of this are in potatoes.

"We begin planting about the end of November and finish the latter part of December," he said. "Then we harvest from the end of April to the end of September, and all our potatoes are sold in South Africa. We do not fertilize very heavily, as we cannot depend upon rain as you do in this country, but we average about 450 bushels to the acre. Our maize and wool we export.

"Your great skyscrapers here impress one tremendously by their massiveness and New York is quite the busiest city I have ever seen—much busier than London—although I should not like to live here. The crowds are interesting to see but not to live with, I should say."

Boycotting Native Labour.

(By S. M. B. Ncwana.)

We never understand the nature and constituent parts of a thing so well as when we ourselves have made the thing. Next to making it is the seeing of it made, but we have neither of these advantages, we ought to at least if possible, to get a trne descrip-tion of the origin of the thing and of the manner in which it was put together. It would seem, in the highest degree of probability that the European public of greater South Africa have not the clear notion of how the Russian revolution of 1917 come into being, and, if they have made themselves well acquainted with the fundamental facts which culminated in the obliteration of the Czar's entire regime—a tyrannical system of government which unequivocally robbed the poor Russian peasanty or their patrimony, they would certainly not hesitate in propounding a more equitable system of Native Administration. The bloody Russian revolution of 1917 was brought forth by hypocrisy and perfidy on the part of the governing class of that great historical country. The land required for the needs of the peasantry was partitioned by the Czar among his feudal barons, and they in turn, subinfeudated to the Lords of the Manors. The autocratic government of the Czar by eliminating the right of the peasantry to own land and taking away their personal freedom, the miliions of Russian peasants then became serfs of the capitalist and landowners. As the supreme issue of a peasant's life was the security of land tenure failing which the working classes of Russia staked all in battle, to redeem their natural rights, irrespective of the forces against them. Thns the bloodiest revolution the world has ever seen, for democracy was fought to a finish. We have heard how the Russian peasants devasted and plundered the country, how the revolutionist laid the foundation, for personal freedom and liberty as against that pauperism, that degradation, that disgraceful immorality, that fearful prevalence of crimes of all sorts, which now strongly mark the character of this nation which was formerly the land of virtue and of plenty. One would suppose that the calamity which overtook and swept the last aristocratic society of Russia would serve as an eye opener to the existing powers of the same breed the world over. But we find that most civilized communities of to day tolerating laws which permit of individuals, if they choose to do so, occupying lands in a manner unhelpful to the majority of the population who go by the name of British subjects.

The wretched conditions against which the Russian peasantry revolted, durin? the reign of the Czar are practically the same as those obtaing in the Union of South Africa—a system of government trading under the style of democracy. Take from the black man his political freedom, take his cattle, or even his wife and children, and he will still tolerate the unjustice, but touch his land, back the robbery with aeroplanes, machine guns and "heavies" and the black man will still face the "bloody war" with primitive spear, bow and arrow. With no land on which to fall back to when avenues of employment are completely restrict-

I may here safely the day of conflict between al and black labour has d away, a darker day is a terrible racial struggle anised white labour and Native labour forces of the

(To be Continued)

Race Problem — 1925. I.

Africa.

Starved Blacks and Mean Whites.

The following comparisons appearing in our contemporary's columns hold quite good (if not more absurd) with white farmers in the Eastern Province and Border districts. "All wages are based on the standard of the common labourer, and a correspondent to the "Star" gives proof of the truth of this statement in a letter dealing with the position of the workers, skilled and unskilled, in the Cape Colony.

The writer states that down in the Cape Province there are many thousands of adult male natives employed on farms at anything between 5/- and 8/- per month.

Take the richest district in the Cape—the Oudtshoorn district—and you will find that the wealthiest farmers are paying their farm labourers an average of 6/- a month, with the meanest form of food thrown in. There are 50,000 of these slaves in the district referred to.

He goes on to say that "it may surprise many to learn that white men, the fathers of families, are paid 30s. a week for their labour in Oudtshoorn, and, by the way, that is much more than what is being paid to some of the poorer whites. Inquiries should be made as to the rates of pay to white girls and boys in certain of the Cape Colony factories. The information would astound one, as also the conditions of employment. A white farm hand, controlling stock worth thousands of pounds, and having a decent-sized family to support, gets a two-roomed cottage and about £8 per month—if he is lucky. There is no poorer, meaner form of labour in any of our Dominions than is to be found in the south-western divisions of the Cape"

Let us examine these figures and see what bearing they have on the proposition with which we started.

All wages are based on the standard of the common labourer.

In Johannesburg the standard native labourer's wage may be said to be about 19/- a week, and the white skilled standard about £6, a proportion of one to eight.

In Oudtshoorn, according to the statements quoted above, the native labourer receives the incredibly small sum of say 8/- per month, and white men in responsible positions receive 30/- per week, a proportion which gives us a ratio of 1 to 15. The proportion is more favourable to the white worker than that on the Rand, but the actual sum received is so appallingly low that it is inconceivable that it could be reduced, and the workers avoid sinking to mere animalism.

The correspondent is careful to point out that many actually get less than this pittance.

The point which appears to emerge, however, is that, contrary to the contention of the apologists of the Chamber of Mines that the cheap native labour enables a higher wage to be paid to the white worker, the exact opposite is the case, for where native labour is cheapest there the white worker is the most degraded.

Referring to the "very questionable" methods of some of the poorer types of farmer the letter reveals further depths of infamous exploitation:—

"The police court records in Oudtshoorn reveal such methods. The farmer persuades his native employee to buy his cast-off clothing on a credit basis; and so the native gets into debt to the tune of about 15s. to £1. This debt hangs over the native's head, and absolutely bonds him to his master. Cases have been heard in the Oudtshoorn courts where some native has been charged with deserting his former employer, who has put forward a plea that the runaway was in debt for ten shillings or so. In the eyes of the law this adds to the criminal offence of the fugitive. Some natives have been so bonded for years and despair of escape. In a great many of these cases the farmers openly admit that they pay their farm servants from 5/ to 8/- per month. During the ostrich feather boom, when farmers were simply rolling in wealth, they bought motor cars to such an extent that point policemen had to be placed on duty at several street corners in the dorp. Big town and country houses were built, and Empire companies played regularly at the local theatres, but the wages of the farm servants were not increased by a single monthly sixpence. The Oudtshoorn district does not stand alone in the matter of paying a few shillings a month in wages to farm servants. What the native women get in the kitchens is still another story."

These are the regions where the workers' organisations, either political or industrial, are scarcely known and offer a fertile field for the organiser. "International."

Native Teachers at Conference

(Contributed)

THE ADDRESS.

A conference of the Cape and Transkei Federal Teachers' Association was held at King Williams Town on the 17th December last under the presidency of Prof. Jabavu who briefly addressed the audience in a few words of exhortation. He said that he was glad to see such a large gathering of teachers who, he felt sure, had come at great inconvenience to themselves. He knew that many of them, through no fault of theirs, had failed to attain the object of their aims, but this should not in any way dishearten them. They all had difficulties to encounter, but if they were to succeed in life they should develop not only physical strength, but mental and moral strength; they should keep abreast with all modern problems—the greatest of which was the economic problem. Teachers should endeavour to take the lead in the upliftment of their follow-men. He would like to remind them that the greatest of all precepts was example. In every department of life there was still great room for improvement, and if their education was not to be stagnant they should cultivate the habit of reading. He asked the conference to endeavour to reach a high level in its deliberations, to look at questions from a broad point of view, and to look at essentials, and not so much to details.

He was greatly applauded when he resumed his seat.

II. NOMENCLATURE.

A somewhat lengthy discussion ensued over a motion emanating from the C.N.T.A. side of the house, the contention being that the two Associations should form a complete union instead of a federation as has hitherto been the case.

Several names were proposed under one or other of which the bodies concerned should unite and many speakers took part in discussing the point at issue. Mention may here be made of Messrs P. T. Xabanisa and A. M. Jabavu, both visitors, who also engaged in the debate and made a valuable contribution towards same. The matter was finally settled by all agreeing to join hands under the "Cape and Traskei Teachers' Union," by which name the two federal associations shall henceforth be known.

III. THE CONSTITUTION.

A committee of five was then appointed to draft a constitution which was agreed to after some slight amendments had been made.

The following constitution is therefore published for the benefit of all concerned, who are also asked to make a cutting of same for future reference.

1. Name: That this association be called the Cape and Transkei Teachers' Union.

2. Object: The objects of the union shall be (i.) to guard and promote the interests and welfare of Native teachers. (ii.) To discuss matters vitally affecting the work and life of native teachers. (iii.) To arrange for lectures by accredited experts for the upliftment of native teachers in affairs educational, economic, social, and spiritual. (iv.) To act as a recognised mouthpiece of native teachers before authorities.

3. Membership: All members of branch associations that have fully paid up their subscriptions to the Union shall ipso factos be members of the Union conference.

4. Recognised Branches: Branch Associations shall be recognised if they have an enrolment of at least 12 members whose subscriptions to their associations are paid up to date.

5. Officers: The office-bearers of the union shall be (1) A President, (2) a vice president, (3) a general secretary, (4) assistant general secretary, (5) a treasurer and six members of the committee. These shall constitute the executive council of the Union with a quorum of five inclusive of the secretary.

6. Duties: The president shall preside over all meetings of the Union; and in all cases his ruling shall be final. He shall convene all meetings through the secretary. He shall countersign all orders for payment of moneys by the treasurer. (b) The vice-president shall act in the absence of the president.

(c) The general secretary shall record the proceedings of the Union meeting and enter them into a book which shall be open to the inspection of the council officers. All documents forwarded to a Government department shall be signed by both the president and the secretary.

(d) The assistant general secretary shall act in the absence of the general secretary; and shall assist him generally.

(e) The Treasurer shall keep an account of all the Union funds in books that shall be open to the inspection of the office-bearers. He, in conjunction with the president, shall open an account in a bank. All withdrawals shall be made by means of cheques signed by the treasurer and the president. (f) The Executive Council shall (i.) direct the general work of the union (ii.) carry its resolutions into effect (iii.) prepare the agenda for the union conference, forwading it if possible to branch associations beforehand (iv.) fill up by co-option any vacancy occurring

during the interim among the office-bearers (v) and make all necessary arrangements as to the business of the union.

7. Delegation: Each branch association shall send as delegates four members.

8. Finance: (i.) Each constituent association shall, through its treasurer, pay a fee on the basis of one shilling per member annually to the treasurer towards the general fund in order to maintain its membership in the union. (ii.) No funds shall be expended except by a vote of the Union when in session, or by order of the Executive Council. (iii.) The treasurer shall present a report on the state of finance at each annual union conference signed by the president and the secretary (iv.) An auditor appointed by the Union Conference shall examine and sign the treasurer's financial statement before the meeting of the Union Conference (v.) the existing treasury funds of the T.T.A. and C.N.T.A. shall hencefoth be transferred to the Union treasury.

9. Emergency meetings: The president and the general secretary may on an emergency convene a meeting of the council at any time, travelling expenses incurred thereby being paid out of the funds of the union.

10. Time and place of meeting: The Union shall hold its general conference at least once a year on the first Wednesday after closing day during the Christmas vacation, and it shall decide on the place of the next meeting.

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12. Language: English shall be the official language of the Union, and other languages shall be interpreted to and from English at the request of the majority.

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14. Voting: Voting shall be by ballot or by a show of hands, according as the meeting may specially require.

15 Call of Union Meetings: Meetings of the Union shall be called by the issue of post cards, signed by the general secretary to all associations at least three months before the meeting is due to take place; also by an advertisement appearing at least twice in one Native newspaper.

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17. Amendments to Constitution: The alteration or amendments of this constitution shall require a two thirds' vote of the members at an annual meeting, provided there was a previous written notification of such motion through the secretary at least one mouth before the meeting of the Union.

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Auditor: Mr E. Maliza.

The venue for next conference will be Butterworth.

THE AFRICAN AND HIS LAND.

In an article on this question the "Gold Coast Independent" of February 21st remarks:—

Many of our English contemporaries have been moved to dwell with apparent regret on the suspicion with which the African views the slightest attempt to interfere with his land and matters relating thereto. Those contemporaries, we regret, refrain from any attempt to find out the cause; or if they are in possession of the cause, they refrain from mentioning it.

Well must the West African show antagonism in matters where outside interference is instituted in matters relating to his land. The African of South Africa is a landless man, living on the sufferance of the white settlers, in the land of his fathers. The choicest arable and pasture lands have been allotted to Europeans on which he can only set his foot in the capacity of a menial! The bulk of his people have been herded together in what are strangely termed "Native Reservation Areas." This term conjures up before the mind a place set apart for some species of wild animals, not fit to be at large among human beings. In Kenya these reservations are in the low-lying swamps and marshy parts, which must be very deleterious to the health even of the African who is regarded as malaria-proof. The highlands have been divided among the white settlers who engage the aborigines, the owners of the lands, as farm labourers at the rate of 3d. a day. If it should be contended that the African, given the incentive, is unable to work his own land, the lie is given to that contention before it is made.

Why with such conditions as these prevailing in other parts of Africa, the West African should still be master over his lands should be a big cause for thankfulness, to the accident that placed us in a corner of the Dark Continent where the climate is such as to render impossible, and incompatible with fitness, any protracted residence of Europeans. We are not sure that had climatic conditions been the same as obtain in South Africa, our lands would not be in hands of white settlers. Such being the lot of our brethren in other parts of Africa, we can be touchy, justifiably so, in matters where our lands are concerned.

KENYA QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

Alienations of Land.

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The exchange of land with Lord Delamere, 63,095 acres; a farm leased to a medical practitioner under the soldier settlement scheme, 548 acres; a factory plot at Thika, 22 acres; and a mission grant in the Embu district, 10 acres. Total, 63,675 acres.

Leases in prospect are as follows: leases to be sold by auction in March, 50,000 acres; two outstanding cases of grants to syndicates of ex-soldier settlers under the 1919 scheme, the case of which he (Mr. Ormsby Gore) had knowledge, involving 5,000 or 7,000 acres.

Various proposals for exchanges involve 1,600 acres: four proposed grants of land adjoining fully developed estates amount together to 1,506 acres, and a few factory plots in Nairobi will be auctioned.

In addition, negotiations have proceeded for some time for the grant of a leasehold area of 60,000 acres in the lowlands near Voi, in exchange for rights over land, originally 100,000 acres, near the coast, which were allowed in 1906 but not yet granted owing to the uncertainty of Native rights.

Finally, there are proposals for leasing some land in North Kenya, which has already been surveyed, into farms in enlarged lots for grazing purposes.

The Lumbwa Exchange.

Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he is aware that approximately 30,000 acres of land adjoining the Lumbwa Reserve had been alienated to a Mr. Tucker; and whether this alienation has been carried out with the sanction of His Majesty's Government?

Mr. Ormsby Gore: No, sir. The information may, however, arise out of the arrangement by which my predecessor permitted the East African Estates, Limited, whose local representative is Colonel Tucker, to surrender 230,576 acres of land at the coast or in the Lowlands in return for 19,843 acres further west. Of this, 5,193 acres is Crown land near but outside the Lumbwa Reserve, from which it is separated by the Uganda Railway. I understand that the land given in lieu of the land given up is not occupied by anybody, and that there is no question of disturbing any Lumbwas.

Armed Raids.

Mr. Ormsby Gore promised Sir R. Hamilton to ask the Acting-Governor for a return of the number of armed raids into Kenya Colony during the last ten years, with the casualties on both sides, the arms captured, and the estimated number of British subjects captured and carried out of the Colony. He was aware that in 1923 four rifles of foreign manufacture were captured. The marks were those of three different countries. The matter was brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

DR. JESSE JONES' GREAT MISSION.

The banquet given by the British Government to Dr. Thomas Jesse Jones, Chairman of the Phelps-Stokes Fund, last Thursday evening at Lancaster House marks an epoch in the history of educational endeavour in Africa. Mr. Ormsby-Gore's generous and finely phrased tribute to this great philanthropic foundation, which had as its objective the education of the Negro peoples, where ever they may be found, was couched in terms that left no doubt as to the vital importance with which the British Government regarded the uplifting of the natives through the medium of scholarship training in the widest sense. And from the trenchant statements made by Dr. Jesse Jones, it must be clear to all that any such tributes are well deserved. The members of the Commission are tackling the vast problems lying ahead in a manner which is already

WHAT WE THINK.

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Mr. Ormsby Gore promised Sir R. Hamilton to ask the Acting-Governor for a return of the number of armed raids into Kenya Colony during the last ten years, with the casualties on both sides, the arms captured, and the estimated number of British subjects captured and carried out of the Colony. He was aware that in 1923 four rifles of foreign manufacture were captured. The marks were those of three different countries. The matter was brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

DR. JESSE JONES' GREAT MISSION.

The banquet given by the British Government to Dr Thomas Jesse Jones, Chairman of the Phelps-Stokes Fund, last Thursday evening at Lancaster House marks an epoch in the history of educational endeavour in Africa. Mr. Ormsby-Gore's generous and finely phrased tribute to this great philanthropic foundation, which has as its objective the education of the Negro peoples, wherever they may be found, was couched in terms that left no doubt as to the vital importance with which the British Government regarded the uplifting of the natives through the medium of scholarship training in the widest sense. And from the trend of the statements made by Dr. Jesse Jones, it must be clear to all that any such tributes are well deserved. The members of the Commission are tackling the vast problems lying ahead in a manner which

WHAT WE THINK.

mere book-learning is inferior plane in the community. All this should rapidly appear as soon as the work of the Phelps-Stokes Commission commences to bear fruit. Its members have carried out their investigations in a way that calls for nothing but praise, and we have no doubt whatsoever that the spirit of hearty co-operation, which is already

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manifest between them and the Imperial Government, will swiftly bring about a complete and most beneficial change in all matters connected with negro training throughout the Dominions and territories controlled by the Crown.

Boycotting Native Labour.

(By S. M. B. Ncwana.)

(Concluded.)

A most striking change in the labour situation on the mines in recent years is in the attitude adopted by the Mine Magnates towards the Native labourers. The capitalist to-day is seeking by every means to encourage the Native to aim at a higher standard of industry; no doubt this change of attitude is partly due to the ever increasing difficulties with organised white labour, but the fact remains that the mine owners are on the side of the Native in seeking to fill higher positions, but for the selfish attitude of white organised labour. Another fresh difficulty has arisen: the Government has published a Bill in the "Government Gazette" of the 15th January, 1925, to amend in certain repects the laws relating to the sale and supply of intoxicating liquor in various Provinces of the Union.

Clause 10 of the proposed Bill reads as follows —

"Notwithstanding anything contained in section one of Act No. 39 of 1887, or any other law of the Province of the Cape of Good Hope no person described in that section shall, by reason only that he is a registered Parliamentary voter, be exempted from the operation of any law in force in that Province which, but for that Act or any such other law aforesaid, would prohibit the supply of intoxicating liquor to him." 3-17-25

In clause 11 there is a provision which will prevent any Native from being employed or engaged in an avocation which has always been open to him up to the present, namely, as a servant or helper in Hotels, Breweries, Bottle Stores, Wholesale Wine Merchants or any place engaged in the manufacture or sale of liquor. This will mean the displacement by white labour of approximately 400,000 Native labourers at present engaged in the liquor trade—all over the country. Both matters are of very great importance to the Native races of South Africa as great principles are involved. Clause 10 is an infringement on the entrenched rights of the Native as a citizen of the Cape of Good Hope; whilst clause 11 is intended to boycott further employment of Native and coloured labour in the trades specified in these two clauses. I appeal to the manhood of the Native races to oppose the measure as being pernicious to the future existence of the black population of South Africa. I declare that it is almost useless to educate public opinion on the dangers of communism amongst the Natives when the demands of the black races of this country are met with class legislation, race injustice. Not one iota, element and sciutilla should be left unturned in demonstrating the race indignation against a government capable of such gross injustice.

Correspondence.

Location Administration

Some time back the City Council of East London engaged itself in the consideration of framing the Location regulations in accordance with the requirements of the "Urban Areas Act." Inter alia this council had a protracted discourse on the question of extending the powers conferred on the Location Police, whereby they may be enabled to effect searches and make entry upon private premises without the restrictions and hardships now obtaining. A few councillors put up a stubborn fight in opposition, and the question has not yet been decided.

The supporters pointed out that the present system gave rise to some drawbacks and the ends of justice are not well served and on the other hand made it more easy for the offenders to defeat the ends of justice. All law abiding people would not find objection with this. The point of controversy comes with the amount of reliance and responsibility obtaining with the type the Location recruits for its service. Past experience does not show that the Location has any laudable ability in this respect. Only some months back a good number had to be discharged for having at one occasion abused their authority.

On the 5th of last month Thomas Mayisela was awarded 10/- damages with costs in an action brought against a Native Police Officer, for unlawfully entering his premises during his absence and making a search for goods believed to have been stolen. The Native Policeman who was described as a "senior" by one of the police witnesses' said in the course of giving evidence, "I was acting in accordance with my instructions, I have made searches in the Location before and I adopted the same procedure as I always did. I did not know I was doing wrong." He also admitted in cross-examination that it was illegal to make a search without a warrant, and further admits that he always effects searches without a warrant as long as no objections were raised. It also transpired that he had been once cautioned and reprimanded by the Court for an illegal arrest.

The bulk of the Native residents of the Location do not favour the proposal. The Location Superintendent supported this move in the council meeting, but he obstensibly represents the Location public opinion. The council would be well advised to ascertain the feeling of the Location on on such thorny questions through the Advisory Board or some other representative body.

THOMAS MYISELI,
Hut No. 696,
East Bank Location

BRITISH AFRICA.

In the chain of empire which it has been his mission of late years to inspect and, if possible, to strengthen, the Prince of WALES is obviously under instructions not to overlook the humbler links. Four thousand miles north of his principal destination, Cape Town, his official routine has already begun. His first official reception at Bathurst, in Gambia, occurred in the northernmost of the British possessions in West Africa. On Monday he was received at Freetown, in Sierra Leone. Awaiting him presumably are similar demonstrations of popular loyalty, school parades, inaugurations of agricultural shows and official addresses of welcome at the Gold Coast, in Nigeria, and so along the vast curve of the Gulf of Guinea past the late German Southwest Africa to Table Mountain. The Prince may possibly be pondering the contrast between the fairly high civilization of the north shore of Long Island and the tiny and isolated outposts of British rule along the fringe of CONRAD'S Heart of Darkness. These British colonies in West Africa are not really colonies, but trading posts whose reason for existence is still the raw materials of the hinterland. The future for Britain lies further down in the South African Dominion and up north again through the eastern half of the continent to the Mediterranean.

The British Crown holds nearly 4,000,000 square miles in Africa, one-third of the total area of the continent. It is a domain exceeded by France's African possessions with five and a quarter million square miles, but these include nearly 2,000,000 square miles of the Sahara. South of Algeria and Morocco there can be no question of white settlement in that enormous French territory, or of any form of development other than the exploitation of existing forest resources. Frenchmen, to be sure, foresee the Sahara wastes plowed into cotton. But long before this comes to pass the cotton of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan will have begun to make itself felt. And on the high tablelands of Kenya and Tanganyika, between the Sudan and Rhodesia, a permanent British population will have struck root.

Till recently the limitations on British development in Africa were considered to be those of nature. But the question of race has latterly forged to the front. South Africa, about whose future as a white man's land there seemed to be no doubt, is now being studied with anxiety. The colored population has been growing much more rapidly than the European. White occupation, far from proving destructive to native life, has encouraged growth by providing the natives with means of subsistence and safeguards against disease. But in fostering native labor the ruling class in South Africa, both British and Boer, has established a tradition hostile to labor by white hands. As a result the economic life of South Africa rests chiefly on native labor under a white upper class, while at the same time a "poor white" class has been growing up on our own pre-Civil War model. White immigrants are not encouraged to settle in South Africa. Many Englishmen now think that the only way to save South Africa as a white man's land is to reverse the policy of two hundred years and to make the country a home for European farmers and handicraftsmen.

This policy is being applied by the white settlers in Kenya, but only with resultant difficulties of another sort. Hostility to Hindu immigration and the exceptional laws directed against settlers from India have gone far to make Great Britain's task in India itself much harder. Some policy will have to be worked out midway between South Africa's utter dependence upon colored labor and the new territories' undoubted need of such labor. For such a problem the British method of rule-of-thumb is perhaps the best. The fact remains that the Africa which once was regarded as the source of ivory, gold, rubber and oils is now being thought of as in part a home for British farmers and as the future source of supply for Manchester's cotton factories.

Native Farmers.

The thirty-first quarterly meeting of the Keiskama River District Association of Native agriculturists met on the 21st Feb. at Debe Nek when there was a fine attendance.

The main subjects of discussion were (1) The scheme for the purchase of a Forage Press for the use of the Association and for the winter feed of stock, and (2) Thanks to the Government for the drought relief supplies of maize to widow paupers.

Excellent and educative addresses were delivered, with blackboard illustrations by the agriculturo demonstrators of the district: — Messrs. Ngqengelele, Tshangela, Makiwane and Sonjica on the modern culture of maize and stock diseases and remedies. Interesting discussions followed in which the principal debaters were Messrs. Timeton, A. M. Jabavu, Mankazana, Mabamba, Sonjica, Njaba, Rev. V. Kwatsha, Cweba, Nkoyeni, Somtunzi and Gxashe. Resolutions were adopted (1) to petition the Government for an agricultural Demonstrator for Keiskama Hoek, [2] to thank the Native Affairs Department for drough relief [3] and to protest against the resuscitation of the colour bar in the mines.

Subscriptions realised £3 2s. 6d, raising the balance at bank to £30 16s. 6d. The roll reached 94 members. A pleasing feature was the presence of a considerable number of clergymen and [illegible] issues Next meeting was fixed for 16th May at Emgwali.

GOVERNMENT DINNER TO DR. T. JESSE JONES.

Work of the Phelps-Stokes Educational Commission.

Specially reported for "East Africa."

The dinner given by His Majesty's Government on Thursday last at Lancaster House, St. James's, to Dr. T. Jesse Jones, chairman of the Phelps-Stokes Educational Commission to Africa, marked a recognition of notable American co-operation in East African progress. The gathering, naturally a very distinguished one, was restricted almost entirely to those who have rendered yeoman service in the cause of Tropical African development.

The Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., who presided, said, in proposing the health of "Our Guest," that they were there to bid farewell to the Chairman of the Phelps-Stokes Commission. The Phelps-Stokes Foundation was primarily interested in Negro education in the Southern States of America, but like so many of the great philanthropic foundations of the United States, it took a world view. Just as the great Rockefeller Foundation had rendered invaluable services to humanity, so this Foundation had rendered great services towards solving the problem of education and to the wise development of the African peoples.

The report published by Dr. Jones after his visit in 1920 to the four British Colonies in West Africa and to the Belgian Congo was an almost momentous event in the history of African and Colonial development. A humble administrative officer in East Africa had told him (Mr. Ormsby Gore) recently that there were two works to which he was continually referring on the subject of the problems confronting him—Sir Frederick Lugard's "Dual Mandate in Tropical Africa" and Dr. Jesse Jones' report of his educational mission to West Africa. It was in direct consequence of that report that the Duke of Devonshire had established in this country an Advisory Committee on Native Education in Africa. He had the honour to be its first chairman, and now found himself its chairman once again.

The Forthcoming Report.

They had been so struck by the work done in West Africa by the Phelps-Stokes Commission that they had done all in their power to urge the Foundation and Dr. Jones to undertake a similar mission in East Africa. Last year the Commission had visited not only the six East African territories under the control of the Colonial Office, but also Abyssinia and the Union of South Africa. In about four weeks their report would be published. He had seen the proofs, and congratulated their guest and his colleagues on outdoing the excellence of their previous work. The report was a mine of information and a wonderfully co-ordinated arrangement of the problem. In it would be found not merely all the facts concerning Africa, but also some particularly illuminating remarks and facts regarding the historical, economic and sociological bases on which any future educational progress had to be built.

The present was a most critical time for all European Powers in Africa. Since the war there had been an almost unprecedently sudden economic development in that continent. Two years ago Uganda had produced some 90,000 bales of cotton, last year 137,000, and this year approximately 200,000 bales. That was a rate of progress seldom equalled in the history of world development, and in all the East African territories which he had visited last year the exports of local produce had exceeded those of the previous year by no less than 60 per cent. It was a marvellous rate of progress.

Such expansion brought new social problems of a very complex kind, and an immense responsibility was suddenly thrown on those here and in Africa responsible for the wise administration of those territories. The very first thing which the African Native demanded when he acquired wealth was education. Education, if wisely directed and founded upon the real bases making for true progress, was the finest thing in the world, but if we sought to impose on the Native the rather out-of-date methods of Europe, we should be doing ill by the African. We had to evolve new standards and new forms.

The Help of America.

Great Britain was the trustee for no less than forty million Africans, and we had almost autocratic powers regarding the future of their countries. To Great Britain as a Colonial Power it was a tremendous help to enlist in the work the co-operation of those who were dealing with analogous problems in the Southern States of America. No one in America was better qualified to speak on that subject than their guest, and his contribution had been made in a peculiarly generous fashion.

Among his colleagues were Dr. J. Dillard, Dr. Schantz and Dr. Aggrey. In the report Dr. Schantz suggested a way of looking at agricultural and economic problems entirely new to him and of extraordinary value. Dr. Aggrey had reached as high a rung of the educational ladder as any Negro in America, where he had had a most distinguished career. They were proud to think that he really belonged to Britain, and was at heart something of a Gold Coast boy.

All sections of the community in all the British East African territories visited by the Phelps-Stokes Commission had nothing but praise for their energy, skill and tact. He (Mr. Ormsby Gore) had been told everywhere how grateful the local governments were to the Commission, and how enormously they had been helped and encouraged. Would those present rise with him to drink the health of their guest. Long might he be spared to carry on his great human work.

Sir Michael Sadler, in speaking to the toast, said that the next necessity in Tropical Africa was to find the scientific way of stamping out the tsetse fly of mis-education.

Dr. Jesse Jones' Reply.

Dr. Jesse Jones, who was received with prolonged applause, apologised for his Celtic origin and his American education. On account of them he had been warned to restrain his fervour, as cold-blooded Britons might not tolerate what he felt in his heart and what he would like to express in admiration for Britain's work in Tropical Africa.

His colleagues and he had scarcely left Liverpool on their first outward journey when they began to hear unfriendly jokes about the education of the African and to experience antagonism to the mission boy. That was due to the fact that we had endeavoured to transfer to Africa the experience of Europe and America without adaptation. It had been done in all sincerity, but it was an error. It had not considered the people as they lived in their own ways.

To avoid any appearance of pedantry he would call the necessities of community life the "simples" of education. They were, first, sanitation and health; second, agriculture and simple industry; third, the decencies and safeties of the home; and fourth healthful recreation.

FREEHOLDS AND LAND POLICY.

In the House of Commons on March 30th—

Colonel Wedgwood asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether, if the Islington Committee on Land Policy in Africa is not to sit and report, this House will have an opportunity of discussing the report of the Land Tenure Commission of Kenya Colony before Government sanction is accorded to any of the proposals contained in it.

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: The views of the late Governor of Kenya on land policy have been received, but no decision has been taken by my right hon. friend, or will be taken until he has also considered the report of the East Africa Commission which deals very fully with this matter. When this report is discussed in the House, the recommendations in the report of the local Commission of 1922 can also be discussed.

Colonel Wedgwood: Is there no chance of them seeking to compromise by converting these leaseholds into freeholds meanwhile, as recommended by the Report?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: None whatever. That requires legislation and none will be undertaken in any way until these various proposals have been considered.

Sir Robert Hamilton: Can the hon. gentleman say when the report is likely to be issued?

Mr. Ormsby-Gore: The report of the African Commission is in print, and it is merely a question of proof corrections to get it out. I am arranging, if it is not actually published by the time the House rises for the Easter recess, to lay a copy in dummy in order that it can be issued as early as possible during the recess.

WHO PAYS THE TAXES?

To the Editor of West Africa.

Sir,—In Lord Leverhulme's speech at the annual meeting of the London Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Society, he is reported to have said: "The Englishman (going to Nigeria) has nothing to do with the taxes but pay them."

As all but an inconsiderable portion of the revenue of Nigeria is derived from import and export duties, which are of necessity added to the selling price of the imports, and deducted from the buying price of the exports respectively, it would appear that the *African* pays the taxes.

Yours faithfully,

A. M. Harvey.

Herne Bay, March 30th.

Boycott Is Urged On Wales' Visit 12 Blacks Killed

Capetown, South Africa, April 2.

Unrest is seething among the African natives, according to reports received here. Thousands of handbills have been distributed in Johannesburg, urging that the Prince of Wales be boycotted when he visits that city.

This evidence of growing unrest followed the killing of twelve natives of Bloemfontein, where police broke up a riot among blacks who were protesting against the prohibition of beer.

Scores of native laborers have been arrested and others probably will be taken as the police activity continues.

A police order commanding the angry workers to disperse by 3 p. m. had no effect, and when a detachment of police arrived to enforce the order, the natives resisted violently. The police then sent a volley into the black ranks.

The handbills at Johannesburg ask the blacks to boycott the prince "as the natives in India did," because "British imperialism, whose representative is about to tour Africa, is largely responsible for your exploitation."

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Methodism in South Africa.

(By a Methodist)

When one surveys as if standing on a high hill the work of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of South Africa, for the past hundred years, he would say, it is one of the greatest churches in South Africa.

This is manifested by the fact that there is not a tribe below the equator wherein you cannot find a Methodist Church.

Its membership including those in full and ontrial, and in Junior Societies, is far exceeding those of other Churches in this country — while its funds including Ticket moneys, collections and missionary fund and centenary fund, are the largest.

DEGREES OF CHRISTIANITY.

As soon as natives were taught how to read the Bible, and to sing hymns, many of them showed gifts of being able to be appointed leaders in classes, and preachers in congregations, and in Sunday services. Some were even appointed ministers among their own people viz:—Revds. Charles Pamla, Charles Lwana, John Lwana, William Sigenu, Johannes Mahonga, James Mjila, Boyce Mama, and others.

JOHN KILNER'S VISIT.

At this stage, about fifty years, conference in England appointed Revd. John Kilner as commissioner to visit South Africa to see how the work was getting on which was begun by the Revd. Barnabas Shaw.

When he came he visited the six districts of the South African Methodist Conference. He found the church increasing in membership, and financially promising to be able to support itself.

As the Conference in England was desirous of opening dark places, and was determined to send Missionaries to the Northern parts of the Continent of Africa, he told the South African Missionaries, that the conference was about to withdraw its support of the Missionary fund (from the South African Mission) which has hitherto sustained the work in this part of the country.

It would be advisable to get ministers from among Native people, men of good report even if they had very little or no knowledge of English who will be able to live under the conditions of Native life. The support will be withdrawn yearly until it is finished.

FULFILMENT OF HIS ADVICE.

The gates of ministry were opened wider, then the following men were appointed ministers:—Revds. John Nomvete, John Ngxola, Joseph Mngqibisa, Paul Tuta, Job Bunga, Steven Manciya, Philemon Keswa and John Nobanda and many others.

These were men of good report and high spiritual zeal and temperance, in their hands the work of God flourshed; they were great assistants of the pioneer missionaries, the Reverends, William Shaw, and Palmer, R. Lamplough, W. S. Davies, Charles White, P. Hargreaves, Theo. Chubb, and many others, doing all they could, upholding peace and christianity among the Bantu chiefs and their people.

New places were opened, schools were begun, seminaries founded where young men and women were educated and trained for third class teachers certificate; those who passed their final examination were teachers and ministers of Christ among their own people. Among them we remember the following students who came forward and volunteered for the ministry of Christ:—Steven Makhobotloane, S. Dlakiya, Samuel Ntsiko, Gana Kakaza, George Ngana, B. Yekele, Thomas Sikwebu, William Mcemon, Peter Mpinda and many others, some of them were appointed superintendents and held it with honesty till their death.

GREAT DARKNESS WAS CLEARING.

The man on the high hill in surveying the work says, the great darkness in South Africa was now clearing. The torch of "The Light of the world" which was kindled by Barnabas Shaw began to shine with great brightness, in hundred years ago. It appears that the path open in civilisation for native youths was a very narrow one. It was open to teachership, ministry, court-interpretership, few attained by pushing themselves to be agents at law, and editors of newpapers. Apprentice classes were here and there opened for shoemaking and carpentry. (It was only in Lovedale where printing was taught and blacksmith shop open), such was the scope of Native education heretofore.

ONE MAY ASK.

What is the life of a Native of South Africa going to be in future? Only God knows.

1. Politically the present Union Government has already taken steps pulling down Natives from their present work of court interpretership and clerckship in commercial works in gold fields.

The Native Land Act, and Segregation is one of greatest evil plots to bring Natives into a state of bondage and mere poverty.

2. In the Church, one sees a gulf between Native and European life in Ministry when looking from a lay point of view.

(*a*) Synods are in two sections in the present constitution, European and Native Sections. Sometimes matters pass by a vote in the Native section in Conference one finds them presented in a differentview there they fail and do not pass.

(*b*) A matter may not be brought in the Native Section, though it will touch Native interest you will see in the Agenda that same matter inserted to be disscussed in Conference. If Native representatives do not do their best to advise chairmen or turn it by vote,

(*c*) Representation in Conference. Europeans are but outbalancing Natives by great majority now hundred years are gone Natives must be allowed a broader path. Trees that were planted by pioneer Missionaries hundred years ago its' time they should yield fruit.

A Native is a child born hundred years ago, the child now is of age, he must be allowed every right of citizenship; we are not satisfied to be mere water carriers and hewers of wood merely. God forbid. As Chairman of Transvaal district has said in the Methodist Church once.

SUPERINTENDENT OF CIRCUITS AND DISTRICTS.

Here is another big gulf. I fully realise the fact of a chairman of a district he is in charge of. The superintendent minister of a circuit of two or more ministers has got the right of superintending those ministers in that circuit.

We have now well educated Native students who have fully passed their examinations both in life and in ministry who have been well tried for years; why not be tried as under the chairman and then to Superintendence of their own circuit? These are the fruits we expect to eat as children of the Gospel of Christ.

Why should a minister be bridled by another minister who has his duties of his own circuit to answer before Synod and Conference and at last before God.

This was fair in the old days in time of uneducated ministers. correspondence which these students chairmen's yearly meeting is mere

We expect the Revision of the both parties on

IF ONE WHY NOT TWO SYNODS TWO CONFERENCES?

If we are one body of our Lord Jesus Christ this ought to be the first sign of brotherhood. We have lately celebrated hundred years' work in South Africa among the Natives, and we were thanking and praising God for it.

Therefore the Church is expecting good and first fruit to be gathered and eaten by both parties Natives and Europeans.

BILL WOULD LIMIT EMPLOYMENT OF NATIVE AFRICANS

General Smuts Warns Of "Ring of Hatred" Of Black Africa and Yellow Asia In Speech Before Legislature.

New York, April 9—A report has been received here, transmitted to the London Times, of a speech made by General Smuts in the South African legislature, warning against the white government's bill to limit the employment of native Africans and Asiatics in the South African mines. The Bill, known as the Color Bar Bill, would deprive natives and Asiatics of the certificate required for certain kinds of employment in factories and mines.

Warns of Consequence

Warning of the consequences of such a bill Gen. Smuts is quoted as having said: "We shall gather on our heads the hatred of the whole of Asia. We shall feel the weight of that hatred in years to come. The Bill will be taken as an outrage not only by Black Africa but by Yellow Asia. We, a handful of whites, are ring-fencing ourselves, first with the near ring of hatred, and, beyond that, with the ring of hatred of the whole of Asia, for while only a few Asiatics are directly affected by this bill, the inclusion of their name will win us the hatred of hundreds of millions of Asiatics from the North of Asia to the South."

General Smuts asked the government to withdraw the Bill and refer the subject to a committee on which he offered to serve.

African Religious Tribe in Revolt

Granted Independence Under German Rule—Now Under Great Britain

CAPE TOWN, South Africa, April 3.—The South African Government has suddenly been called upon to deal with a revolt in the mandated territory of southwest Africa, a former German colony. The trouble does not affect the whole territory, but is confined to the Rehoboth tribe, who demand independence and have appealed to the League of Nations for support.

The difficulty has existed for some months, but up to the present had not been considered serious. The tribe now is under arms. Administrator Hofmeyer has gone to the scene with an armed force and three airplanes have also been sent. It is hoped, however, that matters will be arranged peaceably.

Under German rule, he says, the tribe was ranked as nominally independent and had its own Parliament.

During the war the tribesmen refused to fight against Great Britain and joined Gen. Botha's invading army. Since the war they have been allowed to retain their Parliament, but have been denied complete independence. They are said to be acting under the influence of young extremists, insisting that they are a religious community and firmly believing that they will be protected by Providence.

[Rehoboth, a Biblical name, was given to the tribe by missionaries during the period of German sovereignty over Southwest Africa.]

Big South African Revolt Is Quelled

WINDOHEK, Southwest Africa, April 25.—The revolt of the tribesmen of the Rehoboth region for political independence was quelled Monday by authorities. The tribesmen surrendered unconditionally.

THE MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

ABOUT the last item in a particularly full and interesting Estimates Session of the Legislative Council in February last was the Municipal Conference under the presidency of His Excellency the Governor, supported by the Honourable The Colonial Secretary and the Honourable The Acting Commissioner of the Eastern Province. The proceedings were opened by His Excellency in a lucid speech in which he dealt with the necessity for Municipal Institutions at advanced centres of the community; the steps that had been taken in introducing and passing the last Municipal Ordinance; and the petitions that had been presented against its application to Accra. He went on to explain that the election of an extra member for each of the municipal areas of Accra, Cape Coast, and Sekondi would depend upon the extension of the Ordinance to each of those towns, and emphasised the confidence which Government was about to place in the African community by practically handing over the government of such important ports as Accra, Cape Coast, and Sekondi to the Municipal Corporations. He also said that in the matter of taxation he would be prepared to appoint a committee to consider how the same may be modified to meet the views of those who had criticised the same.

The debate was taken up by Mr. Casely Hayford who said he had come to the meeting to get information and to offer such humble suggestions as might help to clear away the difficulties and make the Ordinance workable. Historically he desired to mention that Municipal Corporations were not unknown to the country and that years and years ago there were Municipal Corporations at Cape Coast and Accra with their own mayors. He further said that later upon the introduction of the Town Councils Ordinance the objection of the people had been that it was partially a Government institution, as the President was invariably a Government Officer. Further, that before capital works had been provided by Government there should be a subvention from the revenue to support the Town Councils. So that there had never been anything against Municipalities in principle.

Proceeding, he called attention to the fact that the only method by which we, as a people, could rise to the control of our own affairs was by experience gained in actual work on the Municipal Boards. The reason why he held that view was because while in the Legislative Council the members were concerned with the making of laws, in the Municipal Councils they were actually engaged in executive work of much the same kind as the officers of the Central Government. So that it was a rare opportunity for the people to acquire that type of knowledge which would fit them later for higher work in the Central Executive Government.

He also said that in so far as taxation was concerned it was a matter for consideration in view of the fact that it had been reported by the Commissioner that the people of Accra were in straightened circumstances, and he was sure that upon further consideration the views of the community upon this head would be met.

As regards the clashing of the functions of the Omanhin with those of the Mayor there was some misapprehension, as he considered that it would be *infra dig* for the Omanhin to be on the Municipal Board as his position, comparing small things with great, was like the King of England who had nothing to do with the Corporation of London, for example, which was a purely local institution, he the King being the head of the whole state.

The Honourable Van Hien strongly supported the contention that there was nothing to object to in the principle of Municipal Institutions, and said that upon consideration being given to the financial side of the matter he saw no reason why the Ordinance should not be workable.

The Honourable Huston-Mills followed and suggested that the Conference should be postponed to enable an outside conference with the Chiefs before final decision being arrived at and was supported in this by Mr. A. B. Quartey-Papafio.

At this stage the debate was warmly taken up by Mr. Harry Francisco Ribeiro who strongly objected to any postponement and showed that there were elements in the community quite capable of taking up municipal duties if only an effort could be made to put down unnecessary bickerings and misunderstandings which, in his view, was the root evil of the community that there was a good deal to be said for the financial situation which he hoped would meet with the sympathetic consideration of Government.

The Honourable Glover-Addo, commenting upon Mr. Lutterodt's remark, said that he had been a member of the Municipal Committee and had supported the passage of the Bill through Council and that the Ordinance had still his support. He said further that it was not true that there were not suitable men in Accra to work the Municipality, and that the suggestion was in fact an insult to Accra. He supported, however, the consideration of the financial aspect in the light of the petitions that had been presented. Mr. Sawyer considered the arguments that had been submitted *pro* and *con*, saw no reason for postponement, and urged that in an advancing community like the Gold Coast the time was ripe for the institution of municipalities.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary having offered some explanations upon the Ordinance, His Excellency the Governor closed the debate and thanked those present for having contributed to a most useful discussion. He pointed out that there was nothing in the suggestion that the position of the Omanhin in the community would in any way be infringed by that of the Mayor. This had reference to the position taken up by the Honourable Nana Ofori Atta that the Municipal Corporation should not be allowed to interfere with the position of the Oman and the Omanhin, and that in his view the office of the Mayor and the Omanhin at a municipal centre were incompatible. His Excellency further, stated that a Committee would be appointed to go into the matter of the modifications necessary in the rates and taxes before they were applied, and the Conference was brought to an end.

We think it desirable that our people should keep clearly in view the differences that have arisen in connection with the application of the Municipal Ordinance. It will be remembered that a good deal of bad blood was raised locally at Accra over the refusal by the Ga Manche to sign one of the petitions. It has been suggested that other local differences were connected with the situation that had then arisen. Happily, all that is for the moment at rest, and the point of importance is to remember that for years past we, as a people, have requested Government to extend, to us the rights and the privileges of municipal government, and that apart from financial difficulties there could hardly be any serious objection to the present Ordinance. Thus, when we have cleared our minds of prejudices and our hearts of unworthy passions, we shall be able to see that the line of progress lies in the adoption of the principle of municipal government.

African White Women Fight Race Mixture

Rhodesia, Africa.—The Rhodesian Women's League are opening an energetic campaign against the cohabitation of white men with native colored women, with the object of obtaining equalization for both sexes under the 1915 Ordinance, which makes an offence of that nature punishable by law only for white women.

Race Problem - 1925 I.
Africa.

HULL AND EAST AFRICA.

Mombasa, March 20, 1925.

"EAST AFRICA" told us some time ago that Mr. Ernest Morison, Director of Publicity for the City of Hull, was coming to East Africa to investigate the possibilities of trade between this coast and the port he represents. The trade ambassador of Britain's third port, who has reached Mombasa, after visiting South Africa, Rhodesia, Beira, Dar-es-Salaam, and Zanzibar, is now busily engaged in combining his business with his pleasure, for Mr. Morison's eldest son, who served in the East African campaign, has made his home here, where he is the proprietor of a motor establishment.

On the business side, he has given the *Mombasa Times* a most interesting and informative interview, in the course of which he pointed out a number of the specific commodities which East Africa should best be able to supply to Hull, if a direct shipping service were instituted. East Africa

Liverpool has hitherto been the natural destination of the cotton shipped from Kilindini, but Mr. Morison opens a new vista when he suggests Hull as an alternative port. For years large quantities of Egyptian cotton have been railed from Hull to Manchester, and as the through cost to its ultimate destination, via the East Coast port, can presumably not be more than by the Mersey port, there seems little reason why his suggestion regarding East African cotton shipments should not at least be well worthy of investigation.

4-23-25

Egyptian cotton seed is being used in the Hull oil mills, which have tried seed from Uganda, but hitherto without very promising results, the reason given being that the seed contains too much wool and requires too much ginning. It is thought, however, that this trouble might be eliminated, and it appears probable that the mills would adopt a new attitude on the subject if they felt sure of receiving regular commercial consignments. As is well-known, no manufacturer likes to have to alter his normal processes for small quantities of raw materials, but is usually quite content to do so if he is assured that supplies will be regularly forthcoming in adequate quantities.

Hull as a Market.

Up to the present all too great a proportion of East Africa's groundnut exports have been bought by continental crushers, German and Dutch buyers having been noticeably keen purchasers during recent months. There is now a possibility that Hull may take a real hand in the game, in which event the Mother Country might make a better showing.

Hull is also a large consumer of castor seed, and if East African castor seed can be delivered to the mills at prices comparable with those asked by other producing countries, rapid development of East African production of this oilseed should result. The quality is good, and, as every East African knows, there is no difficulty in growing the crop. It is merely a question of relative prices.

Hull and its hinterland are likewise large users of hides, gums and maize, and the East African territories might well ship large parcels of these products to the city. As far as maize is concerned, Mr. Morison has made a careful study of prospects at Beira.

As to outward cargoes obtainable from Hull, chief place would be taken by cotton piece goods, iron and steel manufactures and machinery of various kinds. Motor-cars, motor-cycles, and ordinary bicycles could be shipped from the port, while a wide range of articles of smaller tonnage would doubtless be forthcoming.

Those of us who have met Mr. Morison must pay tribute to his enthusiasm as a missionary for the third port in the United Kingdom, as he labels Hull. It is yet too early to say whether the project in contemplation will materialise, but he has at least aroused considerable interest in the possibilities.

"THE PROPOSED GOLD COAST NATIONAL COLLEGE".

Gold Coast

We are glad to see back to journalistic life our former contemporary, the "Eastern Star and Akwapim Chronicle". In its issue of March 25, it has an interesting article under the above heading, which we reproduce below to give it wider publicity.

"THE hunger for Secondary Education in the Eastern Section of the Gold Coast, feeble and intermittent in expression but ever present has nevertheless, been growing, witness the various but shortlived efforts of the past, mainly due to want of co-operation and half-hearted support of parents and guardians and the want of sufficient capital at the incipient stage of each such movement.

Our Sierra Leone friends have had advantages, which the Gold Coast has never enjoyed which arise from competition of Missionary Bodies, which would not endure being outstript in the race, nor submit to defeat. NO such competition existed as regards Missions, and Accra especially was left severely alone.

Native Enterprise however came to the rescue and something has been done, spasmodically though it be owing to the causes above-stated.

Through the indefatgable exertions of the late Dr. B. W. Quartey-Papafio, M.D., the Accra Grammar School was opened which under his fostering oversight and for sometime, before its final collapse, virtually its only supporter.

4-18-25

The gentlemen initiating this new movement, and the Committee are to be congratulated upon the lines on which the proposed College is to be run and also on their securing a powerful backstay under the auspices of the A.M.E. Zion Church, and on their efforts to create a Second Tuskegee; with Prof. Aggrey on its Board. The scheme bids fair to succeed and under the fostering care of a resident Bishop in the person of the Right Rev Dr. Alleyne. A.M. D.D. with Prof. Aggrey on the Board and the benefit of his unrivalled experience and powerful grip of the entire problem of education for Africans.

Our friends, the promoters of this gigantic scheme seem to aim at nothing less than the reproduction of Tuskegee in Accra on a site as near the Town as possible, but sufficiently removed to make it workable. To reproduce Tuskegee at Accra is a huge programme which will severely tax the energy, pockets and endurance of the promoters and those who shall be actually engaged in working out the programme of this great scheme.

It takes away one's breath even to imagine a Tuskegee in Accra that unique Institute, the wonder and admiration of the world. And though the scheme is prodigious it is not altogether unfeasable, for "Rome was not built in a day," nor Tuskegee either.

Tuskegee was mapped out of the brain of one man and that man was Booker T. Washington, one of our own race. By dint of perseverance, dogged persistence and unflagging energy he carried this scheme to a successful issue, expanding it as necessity arose.

Had he waited until he had means and opportunity to accomplish what he actually achieved before he was called to his rest, Tuskegee would have been but an idle dream; he would himself have been subjected to ridicule and the undertaking would have been alluded to, if ever, as Booker T. Washington's mad scheme. But he believed in himself, his scheme and his God stuck to his guns, and hence his success.

The moral of Tuskegee and its creator seems to be what Barlow in his "Song of Abou Klea" declares: "What men have done can still be done," and shall be done to-day."

GUGGENHEIM SYNDICATE GETS 50 PER CENT ON CONGO DIAMOND MINES

Race Problem

NEW YORK, June 1.—A brief an nouncement was made by the Gug genheim-Ryan syndicate which is ex ploiting the Congo diamond mines, that a dividend of fifty per cent has been distributed to stockholders.

The syndicate was formed in 19 under the Congo mines participa tion agreement, which stipulated that the Guggenheim brothers and Thomas F. Ryan would exploit the African diamond mines.

One reason such a high dividend was declared, it is stated, is be cause cheap native labor is em ployed to work the mines.

Wireless Station for Central Africa

THE erection at Ujiji, Lake Tanganyika, of a wireless station has emphasized the tremendous development in Africa since Livingstone's day. Mr. Basil Mathews, commenting on this, refers to a letter from Livingstone in which he remarks, "It is a year since I had any news from Europe." Stanley when he at last found Livingstone at Ujiji in 1871 handed over letters dated 1869. A message can now be sent between London and Ujiji in, it is stated, one fortieth of a second.

Tribe Of Africans Signs Peace Treaty

The Rehoboths, who rose in re- war, they unanimously voted that belion against the South African they could not accept responsibility Government, recapitulated early for the welfare of the subjects of a this month without a shot being friendly foreign State. fired.

The German Way

It will be recalled that certain The German troops murdered differences arose between the Re- some of the family of Capt. Van hoboths in South-West Africa over Wyk, who was the President of the the regulations and certain details "republic." They also killed his of administration of their teritory, aunt, who was 70 years old, besides and a British Administrator, pro- one of two children in arms, and ceeded to the spot with a view of burned the houses of the principal bringing a settlement about. farmers of Rehoboth. The Rehoboth The Rehoboths are a mounted tribe troops, numbering about 2,000, won well armed, and, therefore, the a victory over the Germans and necessary precautions were taken captured a good deal of material, to provide M. Hofmeyr with ade- but by reinforcements the unhappy quate guard, and in addition three Rehoboths were driven from their airplanes were sent to the scene of town into the hills. negotations.

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Reproduced from the "Daily News"

sive war for several days, and, their ammunition being exhausted, were actually on the point of being completely annihilated by the German troops when the German general received information that General McKenzie was marching on Gibeon, with the result that he withdraw immediately from the fight with the Rehoboths andnd directed his force against General McKenzie.

The people comprising the Reho- boths of the territory which until the war, was German South West Africa, are not natives. They are educated half-casts, many of whom are as light in color as white men. They are, of course, part of the mandated territory of South-West Africa, and are therefore under the supervision of the League of Nations.

The trouble in South-West Africa is solely a question of independence. The Rehoboths believed that, coming under the League of Nations as they do, all the independent rights granted to them by the Kaiser, with whom they made a personal treaty, would be preserved, but in order to make no mistake they decided at the end of the war to ask to come directly under the personal sovereignty of King George.

The story of these people is one of the romances of South Africa. In the middle of the nineteenth century they decided to leave South Africa in a body and march away into some distant land. The trek which began in 1871, numbered several thousands, and occupied between one and two years. These people untimately arrived in the heart of South-West Africa, which was at that time "No Man's Land." It is approximately the size of France, but its total population—white, native and half-caste—is only about 300,000.

Having arrived at Rehoboths these remarkable people built their city with a Parliament house, created their own Parliament, passed laws, and formed a Statue book They drew up a constitution upon the appointment of the local Volksraad.

When Germany proclaimed a protectroate over South-West Africa the Rehoboths insisted that they were British subjects, and appealed to the British Government through Commissioner Palgrave to take them under British protection, but this was refused. They thereupon extracted from the German Government in 1885 a treaty of protection which recognized their sovereignty and left them complete self-government, which they enjoyed until the war broke out in 1914. After the war had been in progress nearly 2 years, the Rehoboths "republic" declared war on Germany and fought some remarkable battles.

The occasion of the outbreak of hostilities is interesting. The German general in South-West Africa had captured some British subjects belonging to General Botha, and insisted on "quartering" them on the Rehoboth people. Parliament was summoned, and, in spite of it being pointed out that it might lead to

NORTHERN RHODESIA.

MAJOR A. G. CHURCH, one of the members of the Parliamentary Commission recently in East Africa, has begun a series of articles in the *Times*. From the first which deals with Northern Rhodesia, we extract the following:—

The report of the East Africa Parliamentary Commission deals with a large number of controversial matters, so that it may occasion some surprise that the members of the Commission representing the three political parties have been able to reach so substantial a measure of agreement. Those whom the report pleases may consequently be somewhat sceptical regarding the qualification of the members to deal authoritatively with an unusually large number of controversial matters, while those who find in the report a challenge to their preconceived ideas on the development of Africa will probably pour contempt on the attempt which has been made to deal in broad synthetic outline with the problems of the five tropical Dependencies which were the subject of inquiry. Some of our countrymen, who will never be convinced that our Imperial possessions are anything but a costly encumbrance to us, or that our influence upon the Native populations can be anything but evil in its effects, will probably regard the justification for British occupation and administration in tropical Africa, for which the report is an apologia as being based upon the superficial observations of hurried tourists in blinkers.

Owing to its railway connection with the Union Northern Rhodesia has been associated in its lines of development more with South Africa than with the territories of East or West Africa. The influence of South African ideas is evident in the attitude of many towards Native development. These ideas are finding their expression in the Colour Bar Bill now before the South African Parliament, ideas which arise from the attempt of the white artisan to prevent the African from entering into competition with him in skilled occupations. Elsewhere in East Africa every effort is being made to train the African to enter skilled industry, and the African is developing rapidly as a craftsman and mechanic.

In North-West Rhodesia tradition and convention tend to regard the Native merely as an unskilled wage-earner, whose chief value is to provide labour in the mines and on European farms.

To the Native races, as Sir Frederick Lugard has said, "civilisation must mean something higher than the methods of the development syndicate or the assiduous cultivation of new wants." The benefits which we can confer upon the Natives are those which will enable them to control themselves, to increase their mastery over Nature's forces, to enter the comity of nations under no sense of inferiority, and through education and increasing skill to share the aspirations of the finest spirits of all ages.

It would be a mistake to assume that this process will be interminable. The comfortable assumption of the mental superiority of all members of the white races is being challenged. The further assumption that the African races are at a definitely lower stage in evolutionary development needs only an impartial examination to be questioned. The pursuit of wealth, if it is accompanied by the careless exploitation of Native races, is neither an honourable nor, in the long run, a profitable policy for the representatives of a great nation.

European Settlements.

Northern Rhodesia falls naturally into two main divisions—a western province, which is bounded on the north by the Belgian Congo, and on the east, south and, for all practical purposes, the west by the Zambezi River and its tributaries; and an eastern province stretching to Lake Tanganyika in the north and bounded by Nyasaland on the east, Portuguese East Africa in the south, and the Luangwa River on the west. Each of these provinces is about three times the size of England. The population, which is distributed evenly throughout the territory, is slightly less than that of the county of Kent. With the exception of the principal river valleys, practically the whole of the colony lies above 4,000 feet, an altitude which in this part of the tropics ensures an equability of climate, and, together with an evenly distributed rainfall, between 25 inches and 30 inches, makes European colonisation possible. The soil is fertile and capable of sustaining rich tropical crops for many years to come without recourse to artificial manuring.

The European population, approximately 4,000 in number, is settled mostly along the railway line and is principally engaged in mining, ranching and mixed farming. Cotton has lately been given an impetus by the success which has attended the efforts of one or two leading farmers, who produced excellent cotton crops in a year of exceptional drought.

There are small European settlements in the high-lands near Fort Jameson, where the settlers are growing tobacco, and at Abercorn, in the Tanganyika district, where coffee is being grown successfully. All classes of the European population are dependent on the supply of Native labour, which at present is more than sufficient for their needs.

Native Characteristics.

The distribution of the Native tribes over the country presents a problem of absorbing interest to the anthropologist. Within a narrow compass there are over sixty tribes and more than thirty different languages spoken. More widely divergent types are to be found there than over the whole continent of Europe. Yet communication by foot is easy, and there is abundant evidence that there were centuries of inter-tribal warfare before the British occupation. In common with most African peoples, they have no written language and no ancient monuments. Their stock is sufficient to show signs of exhaustion in the main vegetable crops for their needs. Their methods where they move based on precedent and Nature and its laws. The ground is broken with sticks and cultivated with hoes. When the soil begins to show signs of exhaustion they move to another area, where they make clearings by burning trees and grass. In this way they secure new land rich in plant food and free from harmful bacteria, fungi, and insects. To this process is attributed the progressive desiccation of African soil. But, in spite of British occupation, little has been done to induce them to improve their methods. Their stock is deteriorating, due to excessive inbreeding, the cessation of tribal warfare, and the deterioration of veld grass through the practice of

Light Tribe Of Africans

Signs Peace Treaty

The Rehoboths, who rose in rebellion against the South African Government, recapitulated early this month without a shot being fired.

It will be recalled that certain differences arose between the Rehoboths in South-West Africa over the regulations and certain details of administration of their territory, and a British Administrator, Appointed to the spot with a view of bringing a settlement about.

The Rehoboths are a mounted tribe, well armed, and, therefore, the necessary precautions were taken to provide M. Hofmeyr with adequate guard and in addition three airplanes were sent to the scene of negotations.

Reproduced from the "Daily News"

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In the main they are pastoralists, producing just sufficient vegetable crops for their needs. Their methods of cultivation are those of most African peoples, and based on precedent and superstition and a total lack of knowledge of Nature and its laws. The ground is broken with sticks and cultivated with hoes. When the soil begins to show signs of exhaustion they move to another area, where they make clearings by burning trees and grass. In this way they secure new land rich in plant food and free from harmful bacteria, fungi, and insects. To this process is attributed the progressive desiccation of African soil. Yet communication, little has been done to induce them to improve their methods. Their stock is deteriorating, due to excessive inbreeding accompanying the cessation of tribal warfare, and there are small European settlements in the highlands near Fort Jameson, where the settlers are growing tobacco, and at Abercorn, in the Tanganyika district, where coffee is being grown successfully. All classes of the European population are dependent on the supply of Native labour, which at present is more than sufficient for their needs.

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Africa.

veld burning. The Native measures his success by the quantity of his cattle, and quality does not enter into the question.

Both as regards cultivation and stock-rearing the Natives are greatly in need of instruction. A sound agriculture can only be developed by an intelligent agricultural people, given the necessary training and general education which will enable them to appreciate the difference between scientific method and supernatural belief, superstition and dogma. This would not only affect their outlook on agriculture, but also on the other problems connected with their social life.

East Africa

Cotton and Cattle.

In the Eastern province the Native tribes have recently been encouraged by local missionaries to grow cotton for export—by way of Kigoma and Dar-es Salaam—and there is hope that this crop will be considerably developed. Only crops like cotton, tobacco and coffee can bear the heavy cost of transport. In the Western province the Natives grow a variety of crops, but none for export. From both provinces there is an export trade in Native cattle to the Katanga; but the position with regard to North-Eastern Rhodesia is precarious, owing to the encroachment of tsetse fly belts, which will isolate the Abercorn district unless energetic steps are taken to deal with this menace. A certain amount of research into the diseases which it spreads has been carried on vicariously, but nothing practical has yet been done to exterminate the fly.

It might be said that the principal need of the territory is a progressive attitude towards the Natives by the white artisans and settlers, and an appreciation that the care of Native life and health and the encouragement of Native agriculture are not incompatible with their own prosperity, nor likely to restrict the supply of Native labour on European farms or in the mines.

An Imperial Responsibility.

The other needs are those which money can provide—money which cannot at present be raised by local taxation. The Imperial Government should be prepared for some years to come to bear a greater share of the financial burden. In Northern Rhodesia at present all services are starved. There is little provision for the medical care of the Native, or for Native education, other than that provided by the missions. No provision is made for sanitary staffs, although most of the diseases of the Natives are due to bad sanitation. There is no staff available for instructing the Natives in animal husbandry and agriculture. There is only one trunk railway in the territory. Roads are few. To reach Livingstone, the capital, the Fort Jameson representatives on the Legislative Council have to proceed by way of Zomba and Beira. There are neither medical nor veterinary nor agricultural research laboratories. There is no forestry service and no Geological Survey Department. There is a Government cattle experimental station by the railway at Chilanga, but it is short-staffed and lacks one of the main essentials—a laboratory. It is in the supply of the these deficiencies that the Imperial Government can assist.

The Protectorate is under "Treasury control," which means that the final arbiter in policy is not the Colonial Office, but the Treasury, and upon the Treasury Department, therefore, rests the main responsibility for the future of the country. Northern Rhodesia was only taken over from the Chartered Company in April, 1924, and if the resources of this vast area are to be developed and the territory is to pay its way, initial capital expenditure must be forthcoming.

THE APPOINTMENT OF HIS HONOUR MR. JUSTICE BANNERMAN.

THE outstanding event of the week is the announcement of the appointment of His Honour Mr. Justice Bannerman as Acting Puisne Judge of the Colony and his swearing in at Sekondi by His Honour Mr. Justice Howes. The event, in a sense, is epoch-making since it is the first time that in the history of the Gold Coast a son of the soil has been promoted to the Bench. It is true that His Honour the late Mr. Justice Smith, who for many years was the Senior Puisne Judge of the Colony and on several occasions acted as Chief Justice, was partly of Gold Coast parentage. But in his case he had never lived in the Gold Coast previously, nor had he sprung from the ranks of the local Bar. As a matter of fact, the late Judge was actually the Chief Magistrate of the Gambia, a position corresponding to the office of Chief Justice, from which he was transferred to the Gold Coast. In the case of the present Acting Puisne Judge he had been a local practising Barrister and accepted the post of Police Magistrate some six years ago, and was at the time of his appointment to the higher Bench the Senior Police Magistrate of the Colony.

This appointment is in keeping with the enlightened policy of His Excellency Sir Gordon Guggisberg who has justified the people's confidence in his policy of equal opportunity for the European and African alike. In this we, as a people, must indeed be grateful since for years past previously we had been knocking in vain at the door of opportunity. Nor must we omit to record our high appreciation of the part played by His Honour the present Acting Chief Justice in supporting the Head of the Administration. We know for a fact that however strongly a Governor may desire to see fair play in the matter of promotions in the service irrespective of colour, it often becomes a difficult matter where the head of the department strenuously opposes the promotion of a worthy African aspirant. It so happens that His Honour the Acting Chief Justice Hall is one of those conscientious officials who, believing in His Excellency's policy, has been prepared to give it practical support. We think we express the views of our people when we say that the country is grateful to the Governor for the opening thus given and will never forget the support of His Honour the Acting Chief Justice.

It may not be unknown that at the time of the appointment of Mr. Justice Bannerman as Police Magistrate he was in lucrative practise which brought him a handsome income. Thus, as a fact, it was a sacrifice that he gave up a large income at the Bar for a comparatively smaller income; and that he stuck to his post with many a difficulty and sometimes discouragement speaks well for the grit and patriotism of our distinguished countryman. He has by this perseverance and deserving work opened wide the gates of opportunity for his people. For this posterity will be grateful. And we shall not forget that his illustrious grand-father was at one time a Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony and his father a Colonial Treasurer. He has, therefore, well kept the family prestige for good work. From this we would draw the attention of our brethren in the public service to the consideration that in their daily work the incentive should not be the mere pounds, shillings, and pence, but the desire to excel in honour of one's country.

The new Acting Judge will begin his duties in the Central Province where he is known and appreciated. We are sure that the Bar of that Province will extend to him that support and loyalty so encouraging to a new Judge. The Bar of the Western Province has shown that it knows how to appreciate the genuine effort of the Administration to promote our welfare; and we have no doubt that wherever duty may carry the new Judge, he will receive the same sympathy and support not only of the Bar, but also of the general public.

At the present moment the Colony is particularly lacking in a full complement of Judges, and it must cause some anxiety as to how criminal appeals are to be disposed of. In other parts of the Empire it is not uncommon under such circumstances to constitute a Full Court by an appointment from the Bar. This may be worthy of consideration in the present circumstances. There is nothing so helpful in bringing out a sense of responsibility as in a time of crisis. Our men have already had experience in legislation and some measure of executive work. Let them also gain experience in Judicial work and thus prepare for a fuller measure of co-operation in the work of Government.

SIERRA LEONE AND ITS PROSPECTS

OUR DEBIT AND CREDIT—THE BANE AND ANTIDOTE.

CERTAIN vital and important considerations seem absolutely necessary in taking account of the position of Sierra Leone as a Colony, its development and future prospects with a view of correctly striking a balance of its successes and failures as also in any attempt at locating the bane and applying the antidote towards a wholesome and vigorous prosperity. In the ROYAL AFRICAN ISSUE of WALES'S Visit published as a Supplement by our esteemed Contemporary, *The African World*, we have the following:—

"Unlike our other African Colonies, which first originated in isolated settlements created by private venture, Sierra Leone was originally founded by the sale and cession of a considerable tract of territory . . . the primary objective of this acquisition being the securing of a home for several natives of Africa who were stranded in London."

It is therefore the misfortune, not the will of the Sierra Leonean that the genesis of his existence as a British subject should find him as a stranger in a strange land

Each of the motley collection of tribes thus domiciled in the new Settlement had anew outlook to the gratification of their own peculiar teachers. Those who are acquainted with the early history of the first settlers in this

Race Problem - 1925 II.

Africa.

...ves by burning. The native measures his success by the ...ber of his cattle, and quality does not enter into the ... quantity of his cattle, and upon the ... question.

Both as regards cultivation and stock-rearing the ... Natives are greatly in need of instruction. A sound ... agriculture can only be developed by an intelligent ... agricultural people, given the necessary training and ... general education which will enable them to appreciate ... the difference between scientific method and super- ... natural belief, superstition and dogma. This would ... not only affect their outlook on agriculture, but also on ... the other problems connected with their social life.

East African Cotton and Cattle.

In the Eastern Province the Native tribes having ... recently been encouraged by local missionaries to grow ... cotton for export by way of the Kigoma and Dar-es- ... Salaam—and there is hope that this crop will be con- ... siderably developed. Only crops like cotton, tobacco ... and coffee can bear the heavy cost of transport. In the ... Western province the Natives grow a variety of crops, ... but none for export. From both provinces there is an ... export trade in Native cattle to the Katanga; but the ... position with regard to North-Eastern Rhodesia is pre- ... carious, owing to the encroachment of tsetse fly belts, ... which will isolate the Abercorn district unless energetic ... steps are taken to deal with this menace. A certain ... amount of research into the diseases which it spreads ... has been carried on vicariously, but nothing practical ... has yet been done to exterminate the fly.

It might be said that the principal need of the territory ... is a progressive attitude towards the Natives by the ... white artisans and settlers, and an appreciation that the ... care of Native life and health and the encouragement of ... Native agriculture are not incompatible with their own ... prosperity, nor likely to restrict the supply of Native ... labour on European farms or in the mines.

An Imperial Responsibility.

The other needs are those which money can provide ... —money which cannot at present be raised by local ... taxation. The Imperial Government should be pre- ... pared for some years to come to bear a greater share of ... the financial burden. In Northern Rhodesia at present ... all services are starved. There is little provision for the ... medical care of the Native, or for Native education, ... other than that provided by the missions. No provision ... is made for sanitary staffs, although most of the diseases ... of the Natives are due to bad sanitation. There is no ... staff available for instructing the Natives in animal ... husbandry and agriculture. There is only one trunk ... railway in the territory. Roads are few. To reach ... Livingstone, the capital, the Fort Jameson representa- ... tives on the Legislative Council have to proceed by way ... of Zomba and Beira. There are neither medical nor ... veterinary nor agricultural research laboratories. There ... is no forestry service and no Geological Survey Depart- ... ment. There is a Government cattle experimental ... station by the railway at Chilanga, but it is short-staffed ... and lacks one of the main essentials—a laboratory. It ... is in the supply of the these deficiencies that the ... Imperial Government can assist.

The Protectorate is under "Treasury control," which ... means that the final arbiter in policy is not the Colonia ... will never forget the support of His Honour ... the Acting Chief Justice.

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It is therefore the misfortune, not the will of the Sierra Leonean that the genesis of his existence as a British subject should find him as a stranger in a strange land under guardians and teachers whose ideas and ideals were quite a contrast and so much different from his native bent and genius. Helpless and in an absolute state of dependence, his instinct of gratitude and the pinch of necessity brought about a situation which left him to follow implicitly and without a question, the course of training and development which his benefactors thought would best serve the purpose.

Each of the motley collection of tribes thus domiciled in the new Settlement had a distinct language; each had its own peculiar manners and customs; the situation then demanded that these should be abandonned, at least for the purpose of their training and there should be efforts made to pick up the language spoken by their patrons, teachers and guides as also assimilate their manners and customs. Thus for all practical purposes those would be more favoured and regarded as promising in the new Settlement who were soonest able to follow the new directions and assume the new outlook to the gratification of their teachers. Those who are acquainted with the early history of the first settlers in this

Colony would be in the position of tracing the policy which has regulated the development of the Sierra Leonean from the earliest stage up to the present time. It is true that to-day we hear of the ungracious sneer of a *grandmother* reflecting on the manners and disposition of the son of her *daughter*; but the truth of the matter is, that the wrongly traduced grandchild has been the veritable and striking reproduction, *the exactfacsimile* of his *grandmother's father*. The bearing of this lies in the fact that the Sierra Leonean has beeen a successful learner and has turned out just the product his early patrons and European teachers marked him out to be. But thanks to the inherent faith of the British People in education as one of the principal factors in Colonisation. Schools were started, both Day and Sunday, and the result proved that within a short time the early settlers gave signs of that development which has since characterised the Sierra Leonean as distinct from others, in his ambition to acquire learning and to think for himself. It is well however to note two important forces which have been responsible for the Colony's development whose influence has continued up to the presenton and the adjustment of which we are impressed the solution of the problem on which the progress of the Colony depends, rests. For the purpose of convenience we would describe the one as the European attitude and the other as the African attitude towards the development of the Colony and the progress of its people.

There is no doubt that the philanthropic tender-heartedness of those responsible for the founding of the Colony and the establishment of the early settlers thereon, tended to quicken the pace of advancement the settlement was able to register within a very short while. The influence on the people was strikingly and distinctively religious and it seems necessary to bear this fact well in mind in any consideration of the development of the Colony.

However much may be made of the claims which civilisation as a factor of development has made on the Colony, it should be clearly borne in mind that all along the trail of years in which the Colony had sought to emerge out of the welter and morass of heathenism and superstitution, this has only proved effective by the influence which the religious training has had on the mentality of the people; for as a matter of fact, in every case it is worthy of notice that the Gospel was not brought to the people by the influence of Civilisation; but it brought Civilisation in its train. Under the fostering care of Missionary influence the development of the people took a rapid stride, for an instance:—two years after the village of Regent was founded, it became a town laid out with regularity; with nineteen streets well laid and formed; good roads to the town, a large stone Church a Government House, a Parsonage a Hospital School houses and decent African dwellings for the people.

Thus was settled in the village within a short time, from their emancipation a community of Negroes who had begun life under new conditions and about whom the following report was given:—

"But the state of cultivation further manifests the industry of the people; all are farmers; garden fenced in attached to every dwelling; all the land in the immediate neighbourhood is under cultivation and pieces of land even to the distance of three miles; there are many rice fields; and among other vegetables raised for food, are cassada, plantains, cocoa, yams, coffee, and indian corn; of fruits, they have bananas, oranges, limes, pineapples, groundnuts, guavas and pawpaws; of animals, there are horses, cows, bullocks sheep, goat, pigs, ducks, and fowls; a daily market is held for the sale of articles and on Saturdays the market is large and general. It has been already said that all are farmers; but many of them, besides the cultivation of the ground have learned and exercised various trades: fifty of them are masons and brick-layers; forty, carpenters; thirty, sawyers; thirty, shingle makers; twenty tailors; four, blacksmiths; and two, butchers. In various ways, upwards of six hundred of the Negroes maintain themselves; and have been enabled, in this short space of time by the fruit of their own industry, to relieve from all expenses on their personal account that Government to which they pay the most grateful allegiance."

It is hardly credible that the Regent of to-day is the same place to which the quotation we have made, applied; and yet we find no difficulty to state that what has been true of Regent has been exactly the case with all the villages in the Colony. Our purpose then is to trace the course of this decadence and withal to suggest some remedy.

The Colour Bar.

GEN. SMUT'S WARNING.

[*Continued.*]

In its further implications this Bill will be taken as an outrage not only by black Africa, but by yellow Asia. I see opposite me a party which has stood for an independent South Africa, and so far as I can make out they still stand for the right of secession, the right of South Africa to go her own way among the nations of the world. How is that secured with this policy which we are embarking on here to day, when a handful of whites on this Continent are practically going to declare war on black Africa, and we are flouting Asia from one end to the other.

My intention was to move that this Order be discharged and the subject matter referred to a Select Committee, but I feel if I do so the Government will at once accept that as a challenge. They will think I am challenging a fight. No doubt when it comes to a fight, whatever forces outside this House we on this side represent, we shall be steam-rollered. I do not want it to be thought that we want to challenge the Government, but I am most anxious to get out of the Bill in its present form which the Prime Minister and the country will find a source of endless mischief in the future.

"NARROW THE ISSUE."

I think we should narrow the issue. One great mistake here is the departure from the colour bar as it was in the old Transvaal.

I think we should not go a single step beyond the colour bar. That is the first bit of advice I might give the hon. Minister if I might presume to advise so wise a person. The second is this: Let us separate the Asiatic from this question. I think it is a great mistake to mix up the two.

Let us explore some other way of meeting the difficulty. There are hon. members in this House who have given this matter every consideration. I have given it every consideration myself, and in any Select Committee which will consider the matter I am prepared to bear my full share of the work. We have the colour bar no doubt in the South Africa Act. Let us leave it there; it is fundamental. Do not pile on the agony, and do not make the position of the white man in South Africa impossible. Do not ring fence him in.

I would suggest to the Government—I am not going to move it for fear I give offence to such powerful persons and so powerful a party—but I suggest we discharge the order for the second reading, and put our heads together to see if some other way out cannot be found. If we do not do that there is not a person here who will not regret it, whose children and grand children will not regret the evil results which will arise, evil results beyond the foresight of any man here to day to perceive. I have spent my life with these difficulties, and I know that this sort of thing is making the life of the white man in South Africa impossible. I hope, therefore, it will be possible for us to find some other way of meeting this difficulty which will help this country on to a saner and sounder policy than we have followed hitherto. (Opposition cheers).

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

CALCUTTA, December 20.

The Viceroy received a deputation of Indians from South Africa yesterday. Dr. Abdurrahman [a prominent member of the Indian community at Cape Town] presented a petition dealing with the disabilities under which Indians suffer and the apprehensions entertained in regard to contemplated anti-Asiatic legislation. The petition ended with a prayer that the Indian Government should again press the Union for a round-table conference [a proposal the Union Government has refused to entertain]. If this were refused it was urged that the Viceroy should request the King to disallow the Asiatics Bill of the Union Government, in the terms of Section 65 of the South Africa Act.

In replying, Lord Reading expressed deep sympathy with the deputation, but said that the Indian Government attached great importance to the deputation which it had itself recently despatched to South Africa. The Indian Government always watched most carefully proposals for anti-Asiatic legislation, and it reserved the right to take appropriate action in the event of the Union Government not listening to its representations. He assured the deputation that whatever other political differences existed there was unanimity of opinion in India with regard to the position of Indians in Africa.

*** The particular subject of controversy is the Union Government's Areas of Reservation, Immigration, and Registration (Further Provision) Bill. Its chief provision is a measure of urban segregation. It may be noted that the Congress is not fully representative of the Indians in the Union. Many prominent Indians in Natal do not belong to it. Our Durban correspondent recently stated that the majority of South African-born Indians "would not resent a measure of segregation based on social, religious, economic and cultural differences, if there were not undue insistence on the superiority of European traditions and customs."—"The Times."

CAPE NATIVES' FRANCHISE.

KING WILLIAMS TOWN, December 18.

The Convention of Native Voters representing the Cape Province to-day adopted a resolution claiming that the franchise was granted to the aborigines of the Cape as an inalienable right in 1854, and urging that there should be no change in the present form of the franchise, which would be prejudicial to them. The resolution also asked the Convention should be informed whether it were the wish of His Majesty and the Imperial Parliament that the Cape natives should be deprived of their franchise rights. —Reuter.

General Hertzog, in a speech at Smithfield on November 13, giving an outline of his native policy, proposed that the Cape native franchise should be taken away totally in return for other rights.

Race Problem – 1925. I.
Africa.

Report.

Report of the conference of the Joint Council of Europeans and Natives, Native Advisory Boards Association, Native Inter-Denominational Ministers' Association, Native Mine Clerks' Association, Transvaal Native Teachers' Association and the Bantu Women's League, on the subject of

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(For submission to the Honourable the Prime Minister)

The following proposals are being published by the Joint Conference of the above-mentioned organisations for the purpose of securing the fullest expression of Native opinion on them.

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As is well known the Prime Minister was asked by a deputation led by the Johannesburg Joint Council of Europeans and Natives to secure the withdrawal of a Police Notice issued by the Department of Justice requiring Native women to carry passes if they moved out of doors between the hours of 9 p.m. and 4 a.m. The Prime Minister agreed to do on the condition that alternation suggestions were offered before May 1. 1925 failing which he said the Night Pass would be imposed upon women on June 1.

4-10-25

It is deeply regreted that the Transvaal Native Congress, which was represented on the deputation by its leaders and the I.C.U. refused to co-operate in a matter of such importance to the Native people. However it is hoped that the leaders of these organisations will now offer any criticisms or suggestions that they may have on these proposals.

Any one who supports these proposals, or may have any criticisms or suggestions to make is hereby requested to write to Mr. J. D. Rheinalt Jones. P. O. Box 4767 Johannesburg, not later than April 15th.

I. PREAMBLE.

The scheme set out bellow has the following aims:—

(a) to provide a workable alternative to the re-introduction of the passes for Native women.

In the opinion of the Conference the choice of the Natives lies between Passes for Native women and such a scheme as here proposed.

(b) to clean out the towns of all vagrant and immoral Native women, and thereafter to keep the towns clean from that class of woman by controlling the influx of Native women into towns. (This is provided for in proposals Nos. 1 2, 10).

(c) to secure this control over the movements of Native women mainly through the Natives themselves and through those who are interested in their welfare. For this purpose the scheme (see proposals Nos 2 to 7) seeks to strengthen parental control; requires the consent of the Native Sub-Commissioners or Magistrates for the immigration of Native women to towns, and proposes the establishment of Hostels under Joint Boards of Europeans and Natives It provid s hat Native women and girls shall not take up residence in towns without the consent of their parents, guardians or other authority, and without the assurance of both accommodation and employment whenever required being available for them.

(d) to protect decent and respectable women and girls who want to work in towns, by insisting that suitable accommodation shall be provided for them by their employers on their premises, or in special hostels near their place of work, or in the Native villages being established under the Urban Areas Act. Also be registering all contract of service at official hostels or Record Offices. (See proposals Nos. 8 and 9).

NOTE. The scheme, above, is intended to *Supplement* the Urban Areas Act.

It *prosuposes* that the Act is in operation and that, therefore, the Natives in towns, other than those in domistic service, live in Native villages established under the Act, or else in hostels.

Under the conditions laid down in a town without the consent of her parents etc. or without regular employment or work, will find it difficult to obtain accommodation. On the other hand the presumption will be that any Native woman or girl who lives, or arrives, in a town does so legitimately, and this presumption will be her best safeguard against interference or molestation by the Police.

II. PROPOSALS.

1. That sections 16 and 17 of the Natives (Urban Areas) Act of 1923 be rigidly enforced; that a census of all Bantu men and women in urban or proclaimed area be taken and the idle, disorderly and dissolute be dealt with.

2. [In order to control the influx of Native women and girls into towns or proclaimed areas it is proposed that.

(a) Any Native woman or girl desiring to leave her home for an Urban or proclaimed area shall be required to obtain a certificate signed by the Native Sub-Commissioner or Magistrate of her district certifying (1) that she travels with the consent of her father or natural guardian, or that the officer is satisfied that such consent cannot justifiably be refused; (2) that there is reasonable prospect of suitable employment or accommodation.

(b) No Railway ticket should be issued to a Native woman or girl unless the foregoing certificate is first deposited with the issuing officer;

(c) No Native woman whose husband accompanies her shall be required to secure the said certificate.

(d) That machinery be created whereby parents or guardians may be assisted by the Native Affairs Department to secure the return to their homes of Native women and girls who left home without their permission, or whom they wish to have returned to them.]

3. Government to open Record Offices at the offices of the Sub-Native Commissioners and Magistrates in the Union for Native women and girls intending to urban or proclaimed areas for work such Native Record Offices to circularise all Native hostels and rest houses in such urban or proclaimed areas with full names and particulars of women and girls seeking work and also to ascertain as to the availability of accommodation in hostels or rest houses.

4. Hostels and rest houses for Native women and girls to be established within reasonable distances from places of work and or in the locations or Native villages. The Staff of such hostels and rest houses to consist, as far as possible for women officials both Europeans and Natives.

5. Private hostels or rest houses to be permitted to continue after obtaining Government recognition and if they are willing to carry on their work in accordance with the regulations laid down for the management of such institutions.

6. For the proper control of hostels and rest houses, it is desirable that there be appointed within the jurisdiction of any urban local authority a Board consisting of an equal number of Europeans and Natives.

7. (a) All Native women and girls seeking work to report at the rest house or Record Office.

(b) All Native women and girls entering an urban or proclaimed area or residing with their parents, husbands or approved friends, shall be required to apply to the hostels or rest house if employment desired. Such application may be made in person or in writting.

8. No employer shall employ any Native servants otherwise than though Native hostels or Record Offices under a written contract of servant.

9. After some date to be fixed, no hostel or Record Office shall allow a contract of servive to be registered in respect of women and girls not residing in hostels or in a location unless suitable accommodation is provided on the premises of the employer and approved by the Board

10. Any Native woman or girl visiting an urban area for purposes other than work and not staying at one of the recognised hostels shall have her arrival and departure notified to the pr ity by her private host or hostel ma- nager of a hostel at which she is staying.

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6. For the proper control of hostels and rest houses, it is desirable that there be appointed within the jurisdiction of any urban local authority a Board consisting of an equal number of Europeans and Natives.

7. (a) All Native women and girls seeking work to report at the rest house or Record Office.

(b) All Native women and girls entering an urban or proclaimed area or residing with their parents, husbands or approved friends, shall be required to apply to the hostels or rest house if employment desired. Such application made in person or in writting.

8. No employer shall employ any Native servants otherwise than through Native hostels or Record Offices under a written contract of service to be registered by the Native Commissioner or Magistrate of the district, provided that such contract

The Liquor Amendment Bill.

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"The Government, he said, widely advertised its intention to introduce, during the present session of parliament, a Bill to amend the Liquor Laws of the Cape Province. There is one choice we cannot make, we are absolutely incapable of making. We will not choose the path of submission and suffer the most sacred rights of our nation and people in the Cape Province to be ignored or violated. The wrongs which we now array ourselves against, are not common wrongs; they reach out to the very roots of human life (applause). The executive of the All-African Convention is strongly opposed to the principle of the Bill, and we consider it our duty to protect the rights of our people in the Cape Province so far as we may against the very serious hardships and evils which would be likely to arise out of the white labour policy of the present Government.

Mr. Newana read to the audience Clauses 10 and 11 of the proposed Bill after which the meeting unanimously adopted the following:—"We the Native residents in the electoral division of Worcester in public meeting assembled note with alarm that in the Bill introduced by Government into Parliament to amend the Liquor Laws makes provision for:—

1. The taking away of the right to purchase intoxicating liquor at present enjoyed by natives who are registered voters.

2. The prohibition of the employment of natives in any capacity on any premises where any intoxicating liquor whatever is sold by retail as well as the prohibition of their employment in the manufacture of malt liquor or in connection with the delivery of any intoxicating liquor."

South Africa is our home, it the only home we and our ancestors have known as far back as the memory of man goes, and we respectfully hereby protest against the proposed legislation which will have the effect of taking away rights which have not been abused, and which are much prized by the native community.

We have been encouraged to train our children to work and have and are so, training them and it would be a very serious matter from every point of view if avenues of employment are cut off from us. Besides we respectfully submit being a grave injustice to a large and a law abiding section of the people of South Africa.

That a copy of the above resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Minister for Justice and the Member for the Division.

Native Labour Conditions.

Public speakers often joyfully boast that South Africa possesses the cheapest labour in the world. The truth of this commonplace statement is little realised by the multitude, because its veracity has not made the cost of living proportionately low. On the contrary South Africa is notoriously behind her sister British dominions in the output of those very products which cheap labour should, by expectation, render easy and cheap, namely:—Wool, Maize, Fruit, Wheat, Cotton and Sugar. This reflects the low standard of agriculture attained by the farmers of this country the majority of whom are Dutch, despite Governmental spoon—feeding in the form of bounties, agricultural colleges and a top—heavy department. In fact the Europeans of this land stand sadly behind all the other white races in progressive farming, notwithstanding the low wages they pay to the Natives.

The recent Native Labour Conference at Johannesburg, in spite of the inimical reception it was accorded by the white press, brought to light a state of affairs as regards the low wages paid by white farmers. Several delegates mentioned that in their districts men were paid only 10/- per month, women 5/-, boys and girls 2/- plus only six "pints" of mealies a week as rations. The rations lasted only four days and servants were compelled to incur credit to complete the week.

The net result was that most labourers not only saved nothing year in, year out, but actually faced accumulated debts that bound them to Boer farmers in a state of semi—slavery, being reduced to sack-cloth for clothing. One speaker termed this state of affairs "diabolically iniquitous," not in pompous defiance as Reuters reported it, but with tears of sadness streaming down from his eyes.

On top of this position the present Government have, by their fiscal jugglery, added twenty-per cent to the cost of Native blankets, not to mention new taxation of thirty shillings on every Native male of eighteen years and over.

The poor black man living on Crown Land and earning at most twenty pounds a year as income has to pay two pounds five shillings as a minimum in direct and indirect taxation, whilst the white man whose income is £300 pays nothing in direct taxes. A more absurd and contradictory set of circumstances can hardly be imagined, and yet the Native is expected to be loyal, quiet and satisfied with this form of European domination and opression.

The hands of Gen. Hertzog are now forced by his anti—Native backveldt supporters and Labour Party to push the Colour Bar Bill through its second reading despite the clear warning of General Smuts, and there are three other anti—Native bills in store.

The future of the Bantu race has indeed never been darker, politically speaking, than it is today. The Government is sowing the dragon's teeth for its future citizens, and unless wiser counsels prevail in good time, the prospect will be a dark one indeed.

WALES AVOIDS NATIVE WOMEN AS DANCING PARTNERS

Freetown, Siena Leone, West Africa, May 20, 1925.—According to the West Africa Mail and Trade Gazette at the Reception and Dance at Government House His Royal Highness requested five dances to be arranged for him in none of which was any African lady included. The Press is said to have left with the impression that either African ladies have some aversion to dance with whites or for the other reason which the reader can best imagine, and so we need not describe it.

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SWEARING-IN MR. CHARLES WOOLHOUSE BANNERMAN AS ACTING PUISNE JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE GOLD COAST COLONY.

BY MERCURIUS.

THURSDAY, the 2nd of April, witnessed at Sekondi an incident whose historical importance, and we venture to hope it will develop will continue to grow from day to day.

The "T" Flag was up as usual. Outside the Divisional Court a trio here and a quartette there discussing the subject with unparalleled pleasure and pride. Others were rushing up the Court hill in great haste as if to miss the smallest detail of the impendent ceremony were sin beyond pardon. Every face was beaming with unspeakable joy and gladness and the whole atmosphere in and around the Court House seemed to respire with sweet anticipation and blessed exhilaration. The little birds that haunt the neighbouring trees chirped so merrily as never before from their arboreal rendezvous, and even the Court clock seemed to put vim into its work and tick away with a wondrous dignity as though conscious of its responsibility as the spokesman of Father Time. The minutes flew and the Court was packed with eager and interested spectators. The Jury Box was occupied by a bevy of ladies (Mrs. Goon—wife of the Police Magistrate of Sekondi, Mrs. Woolhouse Bannerman, Mrs. Archie Casely Hayford, Mrs. Yorke. Mrs Vardon and Miss Gladys May Casely Hayford) and a pair of shiny little eyes—Master Beattie Casely Hayford among the ladies. The Bar was represented by the Honourable Casely Hayford, Messrs. Crowther Nicol, Christian, Abensetts, Williams, Hayfron, Gwira and Archie Casely Hayford all gowned-and-wigged and seated at the Bar Table. Behind them was a host of law clerks and other gentlemen. The seconds flew on, yet to the expectant crowd they seemed to linger and pick flowers by the way. Soon, however, the maroon reported the midday hour, a deep silence fell and every ear was strained to stiffness to catch the usher's "Silence" which generally announced the arrival of the Judge. Somehow the usher failed to do his duty, but the vigilant eyes of the spectators spotted the Judge appearing behind the Bench and the Court stood to order. Following His Honour to the Bench was His Worship Mr. Charles Woolhouse Bannerman, the Police Magistrate of Cape Coast, who took his seat on the right of Mr. Justice Howes. His Worsnip Mr. C. A. Good, the Police Magistrate of Sekondi, mounted the Bench from the North and taking his seat on the left of the Judge completed the trio. All, save the Bar, resumed their seats and Mr. Justice Howes opened the proceedings with a short speech, addressing himself to the Bar. He referred to the occasion as a unique and epoch-making one in the history of the Gold Coast and the Colony, in the history of the Gold Coast and the Colony, and to his superior officers and Judge on several occasions. Venturing further on such confidence that to-afield he touched upon the name of the late Sir Samuel Lewis who acted as Chief Justice of Sierra Leone and won public confidence. Referring to Mr. Bannerman again, he said his grand-father was at

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Africa.

one time Lieutenant-Governor of this Colony and in rising as he had done he was only following the line of his illustrious ancestor. In conclusion, he said: "We wish him God's blessing and every success in the work he has before him, and we know and feel that he will receive the support not only of the Bench but of the entire Bar."

Next spoke His Honour Mr. Woolhouse Bannerman who thanked the Honourable Casely Hayford and the Bar for the fine things said about him and added that his only regret was that the function did not take place at Cape Coast where he was better known. He admitted, however, that personal wishes should give way to the exigencies of the situation. He believed he was the first native of the Gold Coast to have the honour of being appointed Acting Judge, Messrs. Smith and McArthy not being Gold Coast West Africans. He said he had been Police Magistrate since 1919 when he was first appointed to that position by His Excellency Sir Hugh Clifford, and during the whole of that time he had received nothing but courtesy and sympathy from the members of the Bar. Of Mr. Justice Hall, he made special mention. He referred to him as a real English gentleman. In his business relations with him he had received nothing but fairplay and great assistance. He did not, however, omit to say that Mr. Justice Hall was a very strict man. He paid fitting tribute to Mr. Atterbury, the Commissioner of the Central Province, who, he said, had always shown him every consideration, nor did he forget the kindness shown him by other superior officers with whom he had worked. Said he: "The great thanks of the Colony are due to our present Governor Sir Frederick Gordon Guggisberg by the stroke of whose pen on the recommendation of Mr. Justice Hall I have received this appointment." He found in His Excellency great consideration, sympathy and fairness. We could not wish for a better Governor. Closing his speech, he assured his hearers that he would always be mindful of the sacred trust reposed in him, and he prayed that God might strengthen him so to discharge his duties that his career might redound to the glory and honour not only of himself but of the whole Colony.

Gold Coast
4-18-25

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

To the Editor of the WEEKLY NEWS.

Sir,—The Gambia branch of the National Congress of British West Africa in a suitable manner observed "Congress Day" on Thursday last, 2nd April, the Mohammedan [illegible] to the cause. It was proposed to hold a Thanksgiving Service and the Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church was approached for that purpose. Strange to say, the Congress request was met with a point blank refusal which however did not daunt the courage of the promoters for arrangement was promptly made to hold the service in an empty land which is situated in a very central part of the town. Dr. Olaribigbe who had been approached almost at the last moment to take the service and preach the sermon unhesitatingly consented to do so. Accordingly at 4.15 p.m., on Sunday, 29th a large number of persons had assembled on the grounds, and as I sat and thought over the attitude of the Rev. J. G. Lane, who was unwilling to hurt the feelings of the Government and was prepared to join hostilities against the Movement, giving as his reason, that the movement is a political one, I said to myself, "This is a convenient place after all, and every place is hallowed ground where two or three meet to worship." I had hardly finished my musing, when the doctor rose and announced the good old and familiar hymn :—

> "Jesus, where'er thy people meet
> There they behold Thy mercy seat,
> Where'er they seek Thee Thou art found
> And every place is hallowed ground."

Every one seemed to have caught the inspiration, and as the doctor read verse by verse, the assembly sang most heartily. A most fervent prayer was offered, and after the singing of another suitable hymn, the lesson which was from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter five, beginning from verse 29 was read by Mr. George, an energetic member of the Congress. Another hymn was sung, after which the doctor began by first congratulating the Congress on its continued existence despite all the oppositions it had undergone during the period of its labours; and also expressing his sympathy with them for the inconvenience they have been put to by their being refused to worship in the house of God that they had wished. He then read his text as taken from the words of Gamaliel to Scribes and Saducees who sought to kill Peter and John for preaching in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, and from words of Nehemiah who also met with opposition and threats from certain persons during the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. "If this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought, but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it." Be not ye afraid, remember the Lord is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your houses."

I cannot give extracts from the address, but as some of us who have discussed it are anticipating, he might be asked to allow it to be printed for the benefit of those who were not privileged to listen to this gifted speaker. The doctor has already made his mark in the Gambia, in the real sense of the word as a "Physician." His name is known, and his work is spoken of throughout the Protectorate. As a preacher, he recalled those earnest and soul stirring Methodist Ministers of the fifties, sixties and seventies. His first Sunday night at Dobson Street drew a congregation never witnessed in any Sunday night, except Watchnight Service. He is bold and fearless in delivering his message and yet at the same time so feelingly, so lovingly and so brotherly he appeals to you. It is safe to say, that he is the only outstanding man in the country, and yet he is so unassuming, most jovial and courteous.

We are looking anxiously to the coming gathering of the N.C.B.W.A. here in May, D.V., and we pray the apathetic and ill-wishing minds may be moved to give the local branch the help they seek from the community.

Bathurst Gambia,
April, 1925.

A CONVERT.

WOMAN AS PARAMOUNT CHIEF

ELECTED RULERS IN SIERRA LEONE.—While Great Britain was debating the admission of women to Parliament, Sierra Leone had chosen a woman as Paramount Chief. Men owed her allegiance, and she proved capable of governing with a strong hand. If a Paramount Chief dies, they appoint a Regent until the natives have chosen his successor. Though occasionally kept in a family, this office is usually elective and if the choice is unanimous or by a large majority it is confirmed at once. If there is great division the Regent is maintained in power until the tribe reaches agreement. In several cases a woman has been appointed.

KNOW "HOW TO PLAY CRICKET."—One of the most remarkable women in Africa was Yoko, who ruled in the Gpa Mendi country, and before whom, to quote a British official, "powerful men bent their heads smartly." Another woman, who still rules, is Yewa, often referred to by the English title of Madam. When Kema Galu, a clever woman ruler died, her sister Banja Galu, a good-looking girl of twenty-four, was elected as her successor. These women seldom speak English, or at any rate only a few broken words; but they maintain sympathetic relations with the British representatives, and, as one characteristically expressed it—"They know very well how to play cricket." They control Christians, Mohammedans, and pagans among their subjects, and there appear to be few religious differences. Happily human sacrifices are a horror of the past, though superstition remains strong. A piece of rag stuck on a pole will be called a sacrifice, and be intended to avert evil.

OBEDIENCE DEMANDED.—If a woman Paramount Chief chooses to have a consort that is her own private affair; but she alone is the ruler recognised by the British. Her authority is maintained with no uncertain voice. She is the people's choice, and they must obey and respect her. If a white official visits her she rises to receive him as the representative of Great Britain; but he treats her with every mark of respect as one in high position. She presides in the Native Court, where all minor offences are tried, and everyone stands on her entrance. Neglect to do this would soon be brought to book. More serious cases go before the District Commissioner, and crimes as murder await the Judge on Circuit.

"BUYING" A WIFE.—Women of Sierra Leone are often considered to be mere chattels of husbands, who are said to "buy a wife." This statement hardly conveys the native point of view. A man pays her parents a sum of money to compensate them for her loss, and in return for their trouble in bringing her up. She generally works happily with her husband, who has his own code of honour and morality, and often lives up to it in such a way as to earn the respect of the white man. Polygamy is the custom of the country; but each woman has a very strong voice in the upbringing of her own children.

REVERENCE FOR THE MOTHER.—A mother is very sacred to the Sierra Leone native. He takes small heed of criticism of his father; but to tell him that his mother has an ugly face is the deadliest insult that can be offered to him. It is sure to provoke a bitter quarrel and may end in bloodshed.

Life is simple, and in the main kindly. Beggars are never seen, save near the towns, where civilisation brings them in its wake, and aged relatives are always tenderly cared for. Women take their share in the work of the fields, as well as in their homes, but the men do anything that is considered too heavy for them. For instance, some of the designs and native dyes are credited to the women, who do basket work, for which men collect the raffia. Climbing trees to gather palm fruit is manly labour, but it is the wives who extract the oil from the pericarp of the palm-nut.

Altogether the women of Sierra Leone are shown much instinctive chivalry. Perhaps that inborn reverence for the mother may all unrecognised, be of the root of the constant choice of a woman ruler.

AGNES BEDFORD.

THE "GOLD COAST TIMES" AND "DEFECTED LEADERS."

WE regret the loose, irresponsible statements that have recently been appearing in the "Gold Coast Times." For obvious reasons we have purposely refrained from noticing them. It is no longer necessary to remain silent.

In order that the position may be clear it is important to trace the genesis of the "Gold Coast Times." We believe it true to say that until the editor was employed on the "Gold Coast Leader" by the present writer no one had ever heard of him in relation to Gold Coast affairs; and it was from the "Gold Coast Leader" office and with our endorsement that he had the opportunity of becoming the secretary of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society. While on the staff of this paper he started the "Gold Coast Times" with Mr. S. R. Wood of Axim under circumstances which made it impossible to continue him on this paper. Since then it appears that the editor of the "Times" has not seen eye to eye with his former chief. But we do not blame him for that. Only that it does appear sometimes that the hand is the hand of Essau, but the voice is the voice of Jacob, and this we invite the editor of the "Times" to deny, as in the case of the article headed, "The Defection of the Leaders" in the issue of March 28th, 1925. That imposes upon us the necessity of examining recent developments in the political atmosphere. It is not for us to say that the "Gold Coast Leader" has from the date of its first issue been a keen critic in all matters affecting the interests of the people, and that it has successfully championed their cause in every national emergency. But we have not been mere blind critics, opposing for the sake of opposition. We have been sane guides of the public, educating opinion upon wholesome lines. That has laid upon us the duty of criticising severely Government measures, where they have deserved criticism, and we have not withheld commendation where we have noticed an honest attempt on the part of Government to promote the interests of the people. It appears that, according to our opponents, in this we have erred. But we take our politics from none, and have always stood by the dictates of our conscience, and nothing shall swerve us from that position now or in the future.

We have had to differ from some of those who would supersede us upon such questions as the application of the Municipal Ordinance and the proper attitude in respect of the social visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to this Country. Apparently the visit has been made the centre of the present outburst. We know it goes deeper than that. As a matter of fact, we have for some time deplored the bull in a China shop attitude of some of our otherwise useful young men, which has caused us no end of anxiety. It seemed to us that it would break out sooner or later; and now that it has we have no alternative but to expose the trouble and apply the remedy.

To come to the particular article, "The Defection of the Leaders," it is so full of irresponsible talk as to make one stand aghast. To begin with, the writer talks of our having abruptly lost that quality of leadership which disregards popular approbation or re- d in the pursuit of duty to one's country. is such a wild statement that every ensible person should like to know the grounds upon which it is based. It is suggested that the address of welcome to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was prepared by white officials. This is absolutely untrue and known to the writer of the article in question to be untrue; and we think it reckless to make such a statement without foundation. What has been brought to the notice of the editor of the "Times" and his supporters, including the writer of the article in question, is that the welcome address was prepared by the Honourable E. J. P. Brown and settled by the African unofficial members of Council, supported by the three Provincial Commissioners. Whatever the defects of the address may be, it was a *bona fide* attempt to meet the situation, and there was hardly any room for

CASELY HAYFORD.

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KNOW "HOW TO PLAY CRICKET."—One of the most remarkable women in Africa was Yoko, who ruled in the Gpa Mendi country, and before whom, to quote a British official, "powerful men bent their heads smartly." Another woman, who still rules, is Yewa, often referred to by the English title of Madam. When Kema Galu, a clever woman ruler died, her sister Banja Galu, a good-looking girl of twenty-four, was elected as her successor. These women seldom speak English, or at any rate only a few broken words; but they maintain sympathetic relations with the British representatives, and, as one characteristically expressed it—"They know very well how to play cricket." They control Christians, Mohammedans, and pagans among their subjects, and there appear to be few religious differences. Happily human sacrifices are a horror of the past, though superstition remains strong. A piece of rag stuck on a pole will be called a sacrifice, and be intended to avert evil.

OBEDIENCE DEMANDED.—If a woman Paramount Chief chooses to have a consort that is her own private affair; but she alone is the ruler recognised by the British. Her authority is maintained with no uncertain voice. She is the people's choice, and they must obey and respect her. If a white official visits her she rises to receive him as the representative of Great Britain; but he treats her with every mark of respect as one in high position. She presides in the Native Court, where all minor offences are tried, and everyone stands on her entrance. Neglect to do this would soon be brought to book. More serious cases go before the District Commissioner, and crimes as murder await the Judge on Circuit.

"BUYING" A WIFE.—Women of Sierra Leone are often considered to be mere chattels of husbands, who are said to "buy a wife." This statement hardly conveys the native point of view. A man pays her parents a sum of money to compensate them for her loss, and in return for their trouble in bringing her up. She generally works happily with her husband, who has his own code of honour and morality, and often lives up to it in such a way as to earn the respect of the white man. Polygamy is the custom of the country; but each woman has a very strong voice in the upbringing of her own children.

REVERENCE FOR THE MOTHER.—A mother is very sacred to the Sierra Leone native. He takes small heed of criticism of his father; but to tell him that his mother has an ugly face is the deadliest insult that can be offered to him. It is sure to provoke a bitter quarrel and may end in bloodshed.

Life is simple, and in the main kindly. Beggars are never seen, save near the towns, where civilisation brings them in its wake, and aged relatives are always tenderly cared for. Women take their share in the work of the fields, as well as in their homes, but the men do anything that is considered too heavy for them. For instance, some of the designs and native dyes are credited to the women, who do basket work, for which men collect the raffia. Climbing trees to gather palm fruit is manly labour, but it is the wives who extract the oil from the pericarp of the palm-nut.

Altogether the women of Sierra Leone are shown much instinctive chivalry. Perhaps that inborn reverence for the mother may all unrecognised, be of the root of the constant choice of a woman ruler.

AGNES BEDFORD.

THE "GOLD COAST TIMES" AND "DEFECTED LEADERS."

WE regret the loose, irresponsible statements that have recently been appearing in the "Gold Coast Times." For obvious reasons we have purposely refrained from noticing them. It is no longer necessary to remain silent.

In order that the position may be clear it is important to trace the genesis of the "Gold Coast Times." We believe it true to say that until the editor was employed on the "Gold Coast Leader" by the present writer no one had ever heard of him in relation to Gold Coast affairs; and it was from the "Gold Coast Leader" office and with our endorsement that he had the opportunity of becoming the secretary of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society. While on the staff of this paper he started the "Gold Coast Times" with Mr. S. R. Wood of Axim under circumstances which made it impossible to continue him on this paper. Since then it appears that the editor of the "Times" has not seen eye to eye with his former chief. But we do not blame him for that. Only that it does appear sometimes that the hand is the hand of Essau, but the voice is the voice of Jacob. and this we invite the editor of the "Times" to deny, as in the case of the article headed, "The Defection of the Leaders" in the issue of March 28th, 1925. That imposes upon us the necessity of examining recent developments in the political atmosphere. It is not for us to say that the "Gold Coast Leader" has from the date of its first issue been a keen critic in all matters affecting the interests of the people, and that it has successfully championed their cause in every national emergency. But we have not been mere blind critics, opposing for the sake of opposition. We have been sane guides of the public, educating opinion upon wholesome lines. That has laid upon us the duty of criticising severely Government measures, where they have deserved criticism, and we have not withheld commendation where we have noticed an honest attempt on the part of Government to promote the interests of the people. It appears that, according to our opponents, in this we have erred. But we take our politics from none, and have always stood by the dictates of our conscience, and nothing shall swerve us from that position now or in the future.

We have had to differ from some of those who would supersede us upon such questions as the application of the Municipal Ordinance and the proper attitude in respect of the social visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to this Country. Apparently the visit has been made the centre of the present outburst. We know it goes deeper than that. As a matter of fact, we have for some time deplored the bull in a China shop attitude of some of our otherwise useful young men, which has caused us no end of anxiety. It seemed to us that it would break out sooner or later; and now that it has we have no alternative but to expose the trouble and apply the remedy.

To come to the particular article, "The Defection of the Leaders," it is so full of irresponsible talk as to make one stand aghast. To begin with, the writer talks of our having abruptly lost that quality of leadership which disregards popular approbation or re- d in the pursuit of duty to one's country. is such a wild statement that every ensible person should like to know the grounds upon which it is based. It is suggested that the address of welcome to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was prepared by white officials. This is absolutely untrue and known to the writer of the article in question to be untrue; and we think it reckless to make such a statement without foundation. What has been brought to the notice of the editor of the "Times" and his supporters, including the writer of the article in question, is that the welcome address was prepared by the Honourable E. J. P. Brown and settled by the African unofficial members of Council, supported by the three Provincial Commissioners. Whatever the defects of the address may be, it was a *bona fide* attempt to meet the situation, and there was hardly any room for

CASELY HAYFORD.

Race Problem—1925.
Africa.

KENYA AND UGANDA.

DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK.

Homeward Journey.

The Duke and Duchess of York, who have left Port Said in the "Maloja" on their way home, are, it is authoritatively stated, to arrive at London to-morrow. It is quite possible, the Central News learns, that their Royal Highnesses' arrival at Marseilles yesterday might have coincided with the presence in that corner of the Mediterranean of the Royal yacht Victoria and Albert, with the King and Queen on board. In this event, the Duke and Duchess of York would visit their Majesties and possibly spend a night aboard the yacht. Their Royal Highnesses left London for Kenya on December 1, and, travelling overland from Marseilles, the Duke and Duchess will proceed to White Lodge for a short rest before carrying out a heavy list of engagements which awaits their return.

E.A. INFORMATION BUREAU.

Chief Appointed.

It is officially announced that the Trade Commissioner, Mr. Franklin, has been selected as first chief of the East African Information Bureau in London, which is expected to open shortly after details have been settled, cables the Nairobi correspondent of the "Morning Past." Mr. Franklin will divide his time between London and the African territories, and deputies are to be appointed in London and East Africa to carry on his duties as Trade Commissioner. The Bureau will also control the Wembley exhibit.

SIR ROBERT CORYNDON MEMORIAL.

In view of his great services to Kenya Colony and Uganda it is fitting that there should be erected a memorial to the late Sir Robert Coryndon. The matter has been taken in hand and it would appear to be highly probable that the memorial will be in the form of a museum, as it is felt such would have coincided with Sir Robert Robert Coryndon's wishes.

It is recalled that in the Legislative Council in December Sir Robert emphasised the need in the colony of a museum, which would be of value, not only to Kenya, but to the whole world. Sir Robert said at the time that he had in mind a scheme much bigger than that of the Natural History Museum which already existed—a scheme in which other branches of science would be introduced, such as Veterinary Research, Botanical Research, and questions of that sort. He expressed a desire to see £500 p.a. granted for some years, as he believed this would be the beginning of a central Museum and Public "Library."

Opinion seems to be unanimous that no more worthy memorial to the late Governor could be erected than a museum on the lines he himself outlined, and with which his name could be connected. The Acting-Governor, who has formed a most representative committee, is calling for funds for the erection of the museum on a prominent site in Nairobi.

A PERIOD OF PROSPERITY.

The healthy progress that Kenya is making was emphasised by the Acting-Governor in his opening address to the Convention of Associations at Nairobi.

"The country is at present enjoying a period of prosperity which, please God, will continue," he stated. "The floating debt has been cleared off, the railways are showing remarkable profits, and our exports are rapidly increasing. All these factors enable us to find more money for the urgent needs of the country. The provision of education for all European children in the colony is one which I am sure will receive your fullest sympathy and support, and I trust that your association and your branch association will co-operate with Government in proposals to enable the poorer members of the European community to secure the best education possible for their children."

THE COLONY'S LABOUR PROBLEM.

Government's Moral Obligation Towards the Settler.

There is the strongest possible moral obligation on the Government of the country to give the fullest assistance it can in securing to the European settler in this country the benefit of the developments which he has created, to the lasting advantage of the colony.—This was a striking passage in the address delivered by the Acting-Governor of Kenya Colony in opening the first session of the Convention of Associations at Nairobi.

Mr. Denham declared that questions affecting labour presented problems of great difficulty, which were engaging the anxious thought of all serious men in Kenya. The Government did not desire to shirk its responsibility in the matter.

"It is unthinkable," he added, "that Government can contemplate the efforts of settlers who have—after vicissitudes each of which is in itself sufficient to cripple a less energetic community—converted waste into arable and uncultivated lands into fields of maize, coffee, and sisal being rendered useless for the want of labour when and where such is available, and where it may and should be possible to secure the active assistance of the natives and without prejudice to their interests."

Clearly-Defined Policy.

Having made the statement which appears at the commencement of this article, Mr. Denham said: "I wish to make it perfectly clear that such is the policy of the administration, and that Government expects every administrative officer to give all possible encouragement to the labour within their district to work on the lands which have been opened up by the settlers of the country. Government cannot recruit for the individual—he must necessarily be a competitor in the labour market—but Government can and does say that it is in both the interests of the natives as well as those of the Europeans in the country that labour should go out to work under the best conditions on land which has been put or is being put under cultivation to the benefit of the whole country and of every man and woman in it. The importance and urgency of labour for public works and for the estates were stressed by the late Governor at the barazas he was able to hold, and I propose while acting as Governor to visit other districts and address the people on this important question.

"The critics of this country appear to base their criticism when dealing with the labour question on two arguments. The first is that the native cannot cultivate for himself if he is working for an employer. Secondly, that he would be happier and a more productive agent if he was cultivating this own shamba rather than working on a European's. The interests of the native are the interests of us all and the trusteeship is not arguable—it is a sacred duty. But the critic who condemns the way in which the guardian performs his duty is generally expected to have met the ward.

"In Kenya we welcome such inspections. Perhaps the critics might then realise, which apparently they at present fail to do, that the ordinary native labourer is not a whole-time worker on a European estate, and that our labour problem can be very largely met if the natives go out in increased numbers during a few months only at the time of pressure and when his own crops do not suffer. There is room for both provided that there is organisation and combination. The value and advantage of the squatter system were recognised by the Parliamentary Commission, whose presence here we welcomed, and is admitted in a recent book on Kenya by Dr. Norman Levs. Writing of the Resident Natives Ordinance he says that it 'encourages home-making and family life, and will, it may be hoped, provide a type of African notably alert in mind and industrious in habits.'

SOUTH AFRICA'S 1923-24 COTTON CROP

FACTS AND FIGURES IN OFFICIAL REVIEW.

We have received from the Chief of the Cotton Division of the Union Department of Agriculture the following interesting review of the 1923-24 cotton crop in South Africa.

The season was (states the review) one of the most difficult experienced for many a year. Rains in most parts were very late, holding back ploughing, and undoubtedly the acreage was smaller than had been intended. In nearly all areas the young cotton had a hard struggle to keep alive, and it was only some timely rain in January that relieved the position.

The Low Veld and Eastern Transvaal then progressed fairly well, but Rustenburg area was very severely handicapped by heavy infestation of locusts.

The adverse conditions find reflection in the statistics that follow. The proportion of discoloured cotton was greater than normal, as was also the production of cotton below 1⅛ inch, much of which showed a far more soft and wasty character than usual.

Statistics.

As per ginners' returns, the total crop amounted to 3,492,065 lb. lint, or 7,392 running bales.

The details, compared with previous years, are as follows:—

—	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1920-21.
Running vales...	7,392	6,064	2,640	2,763
Statistical bale (of 500lb.)	6,984	5,228	2,178	2,33[illegible]
Total—	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Lint.....	3,492,075	2,609,068	1,03[illegible],189	1,160 298
Seed cotton ...	11,765,122	8, 27,325	3,415 261	3,551,067
Seed.....	7,521,197	5,50 ,544	2,2[illegible]2,2[illegible]	2,287,832
Linters	138 125	64,389	14 294	59,[illegible]55

Production by areas, with last season's figures for comparison, was returned as follows:—

—	Seed Cotton.	
	1923-24.	1922-23.
Natal and Zululand area.....	6,374,601	4,149,911
Rustenburg area (including Pretoria and Marico Districts)	543,846	1,042 508
Northern Transvaal area (including Waterberg, Pieter berg, and Zoutpansberg Districts)	1,139,730	489,913
Eastern Transvaal area (including Lydenburg and Barberton Districts)	2,379,541	1,548,867
Cape Province.....	244.115	99,434
Swaziland.....	783,289	466,492

Grading.

In the following statistics, which give the proportions of the different staples and grades, small bales have been counted as half bales to give correct comparison.

Comparison of Grading.	1923-24.		1922-23.		1921-22.		1920-21.	
	Bales	%	Bales	%	Bales	%	Bales	%
STAPLE.								
1½ inch and above...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1⅛ inch.....	89	1¼	216	4	—	—	—	—
Full 1⅛ inch.....	1169	16	1096	20½	6	½	70	9½
Good 1⅛ inch	2097	28½	2308	43¼	447	26	604	25
1⅛ inch	2 73	31½	754	14¼	228	3	680	29
1⅛ inch and below.	1631	22½	968	18	10 8	60½	1009	42½
Total	7267	100	5342	100	1719	100	2363	100
GRADE.								
Middling, fair, good colour	23	¼	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strict good middling, good colour	1424	19½	732	13¾	52	3	143	6
Good middling, good colour.....	2557	35¼	1408	26¼	555	32½	631	26¾
Strict middling good colour.....	1102	15¼	1348	25¼	732	42½	860	36½
Middling, good colour and below	450	6¼	76	14½	224	13	381	16¼
Good colour	5556	76½	4254	79¾	1563	91	2015	85¾
Off colour.....	1711	23½	1088	20¼	156	9	348	14¼
Total	7267	100	534	100	1719	100	2363	100
Sea Island cotton...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Pima cotton	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—

This season's grading was based on "Universal Standard" and "Liverpool Staple" and to allow comparison the figures of previous seasons, although originally based on different standards, are converted to the equivalent of the new standards.

Marketing.

The practice of selling the cotton locally is being established more firmly with every year. The main selling centre is Durban while a sale was also held at Pretoria, and a parcel of Eastern Transvaal cotton was sold at Delagoa Bay.

Three thousand eight hundred and sixty-four bales were sold locally (55 per cent. of crop), practically all by public auction. The prices were based on Liverpool futures, the terms generally being net cash on delivery, f.o.r. shipping port. Prices realised were very good, owing to keen competition for the cotton. Records are available of the prices realised for 3,213 bales sold by public auction.

The average price realised on 3,213 bales was 15.57d., the basis on an average being 87 on (equal to about 225 on in Liverpool).

The remainder of the crop was sent on consignment to Liverpool, where very satisfactory prices were realised.

It may be reasonably surmised that the average price for the whole crop is substantially the same as the average for the portion sold locally—*i.e.*, 15.57d. at the port. On this basis the value of the crop (net in South Africa) was £226,548.

Regulations.

By Government Notice No. 642 of April 16, 1923, the grading of all cotton for export was made compulsory. In previous years grading was facultative, when approximately two thirds of the crops were graded. Grading is carried out by Government cotton graders stationed at Pretoria, Transvaal, and Durban, Natal.

The regulations include provisions aiming at the establishment of a standard bale. The American standard measurements were adopted—*i.e.*, a bale of 500 lb., measuring approximately 54 by 27 by 20 inches, at an average density of 30 lbs. per cubic foot. The standard is now virtually established. 73 per cent. of exports having been in standard bales this season, and owing to erection of further high density presses at ginneries and a compress at Durban, practically 100 per cent. will be up to standard the coming season.

Forecast for 1924-25.

A big increase in acreage was again witnessed, the total acreage being estimated at 67,500 acres.

The season was very favourable for early planting, and excellent stands were obtained. Prospects are the very best, and a minimum of 20,000 bales seems assured, with a possible production of 25,000 bales.

Walking Round Africa.

Walking through or round South Africa appears to be becoming an increasingly popular pastime. The latest to attempt the feat are three young Portuguese, who intend to write a book based on their experiences. So far they have covered 1,600 miles.

DR. JONES REPORTS ON EAST AFRICA

Finds Natives Looking On While Foreigners play Football with Africa's Future

COMMISSION SPENT SIX MONTHS THERE

Traditional Native Religion Must Be Modified, Shouldn't try to Destroy it

New York.—The natives of Africa are at present on the sidelines, watching European and Asiatic settlers play football with the future of a continent rich in natural resources and the great question mark of international peace and prosperity, according to the official report of the Educational Commission to East Africa, issued today by the Phelps-Stokes Fund.

The Commission spent six months in the field, traveling from French Somaliland to Cape Town, and supplemented the work of a similar group which studied West, South and Equatorial Africa in 1910. The chairman of both Commissions was Dr. Thomas Jesse Jones, educational director of the Phelps-Stokes Fund which was founded in 1908 to promote Negro education in the South and the missionary societies of Great Britain and North America cooperated by lending experts to serve on the Commissions.

Natives Need

The solution he recommends is stated in terms of education intelligently adapted to the needs of native life. Simplicity rather than complexity is urged, and Dr. Jones gives as his basic "simples" of education:

1—Health and sanitation for a land where infant death rate range from 300 to upwards 600 per thousand.

2—Training in crop production, animal husbandry, food preservation and the farm trades for a people who are often decimated by famine in a land of plenty.

3—Proper understanding of the "decencies and safeties of the home," including preparation of food, provision of proper clothing and care of the ill.

4—Healthful recreation and amusements for a people notorious for the physical and sexual excesses of their primitive games.

He pays high tribute to the character building influences of the Christian religion; at the same time he would salvage as much as possible of native traditions and customs, modifying them and directing them into the proper channels.

Director of Education

The report also recommends that a Director of Education be included in every territorial administration, and that the pioneer and continuing importance of the missionary schools be recognized by grants-in-aid. However degraded her status in any tribe, the African woman wields great power over the health and the home life of her family, and education is therefore every bit as important for girls as it is for the boys.

Recruiting of Native Labour.

[By S. M. B. Ncwana]

Nothing injures the desire to contract for the mines so much as want of prospects. When hope has been abandoned, no stimulus to self improvement remains. As long as the worker is regarded and treated by the employer as a drudge as long as it is considered necessary to prevent, or at least to make exceedingly difficult, the progress of the able, so long will labour arrangements will fail to exercise any attraction, and so long will they feed rather than extinguish the revolutionary fire of discontent sweeping across the Native Territories of the Union. There are two separate Recruiting organisations for the gold and coal mines of the Transvaal:—The Native Recruiting Corporation, which operates in the Union and protectorates, and the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association, operating in Portuguese East Africa. From the report of the Mining Industry Board 1922, it would appear that for the year ended the 30th June 1921, a sum of about £489,000 was spent by the Mining Industry on the recruiting of Natives. Of this £224,324 was paid to the W.N.L.A. and £264,944 to the N.R.C. Up to 1922 the N.R.C. cost per Native recruited was £4 3 10., and there is a general feeling among the Chiefs and Native leaders that the present system as practised by N.R.C. should be revised in such a manner that Natives only will recruit for the mines not the European Traders. The operations at present are conducted mainly through the traders in the Native Territories, who are employed by the corporation as agents, and who recruit from amongst their clients and their families, receiving a capitation fee for each native secured for the gold mines. This system, in the opinion of the intelligent Native public, is bad for the Natives, inasmuch as it encourages habits of extravagance and excessive credit as between the Natives and the traders. More and above this there seems to be no justification on the part of the N.R.C. to put £264,944 into the pockets of the wily traders when starvation is rampant amongst the Natives seriously penalised their economic and social development. A few centres, the Native chiefs declared that their fathers declared that their policy of supplementing Union Labour by recruiting of about 80,000 Natives from Portuguese territory.

I am almost certain that the reinstatement of native agents in the native labour in the Union and protectorates could be easily effected by appointing efficient Natives as Recruiting Agents on the same terms as European traders. From the views already expressed, chiefs and leaders of native thought would certainly co operate with Native recruiting agents in meeting the Corporation's demand for Native mine labour.

The Native secured would be clear that the appointment of natives as recruiting agents, while cutting down the cost per Native secured would place responsible native leaders and chiefs, so employed, in a position to persuade union mine labourers to contract for a longer period. Such a policy, if adopted, it is almost certain would be admitted that it will be also a condition of happiness for the state to find within its own limits all the labour it requires for its industries. With the replacement of Native Labour on the railways and in other branches of private industries the Chamber of Mines would do much in the way of alleviating pressing contracts as between themselves, some change in the system of recruiting mine labour in the Union. It is obvious that the Union Government would be no justification for the replacement of Native recruiting by responsibility for the recruiting of Native labour, on which nearly the whole mining industry depends and that shortage has resulted in the disastrous policy of supplementing Union Labour by Portuguese territory.

NEGROES DEMAND SAME PAY AS WHITE AT CAPETOWN MEETING

CAPETOWN, Africa, June [illegible]—A big mass meeting of Negroes in this city demanded legislation to enforce equal pay for equal work, regardless of the race of the workers.

Agriculture In Basutoland.

(Continued From Last Issue)

After all the cobs which have been picked out for seed have been brought up to the house, go carefully through them again and pick out as many of the very best as you require for seed, these cobs should have the grain taken off their butts, tips and any discoloured grains should be picked out with a nail. The remaining grain is that which should be used for seed.

This may seem a lot of trouble to take over the seed for a mealie or Kaffircorn crop, but I am sure if anyone carries out these instructions they will reap the benefit.

L. F. Wacher.
Agricultural Officer

Race Problem - 1925.
Africa.

"WEST AFRICA."

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WEST AFRICA, being the only British weekly newspaper devoted exclusively to the Allies' countries in West Africa, offers unique advantages to business enterprises addressing themselves to one of the great new markets of the world, comprising about thirty millions of people, mainly industrious and prosperous, and advancing rapidly in the practices of modern civilisation.

FACT VERSUS PREJUDICE.

TWO views of, or rather, reports upon, the conditions and prospects of the African racial stock have just appeared in print in this country which are worth a moment's consideration by those interested in West Africa and the potentialities of its Native races. The first, in the "Sunday Times" of August 2, is from the pen of Miss Helen Normanton, a London barrister, and is based upon a visit to the Hampton Institute, Virginia. It is an account which confirms a view formerly expressed in these columns, namely, that while it is true that attacks, mainly physical, upon the African reach a degree of violence in parts of the United States unknown in British communities, it is also true—it is, perhaps, a kind of re-action highly creditable to those concerned—that organised effort in his favour also outdoes anything known among us. It is a point worth consideration by the West African Governments and the Colonial Office. After tributes to the natural beauty of the surroundings of Hampton, to the courtesy of the African students who guide visitors, and to the part played by music in the curriculum, Miss Normanton goes on :—

> But those who go to Hampton simply to hear the music come again and again to learn more of the spirit of its marvellous educational principles. The idea of a university which insists with unvaried rigidity upon every student learning a manual occupation is a novelty to the English mind. Such practicality is unknown to us. It may be that the coloured professional man will be driven to the wall by apathy and social ostracism. If he has a trade as well, and can print, tailor, or repair boots, he need never be pushed over that wall into the abyss. Hence Hampton's insistence upon the trade. Nor is it taught to the student in a dilettante arts-and-crafts sort of way. Every deparment (if practicable) must put its work into the commercial market of the locality—the suits of clothes must sell, the printing shop must obtain work from outside firms, and so on. Agriculture is the basic industry of America, and doubly so that of the Negro. Several farms are attached to Hampton, and the student learns his job by undertaking contracts with the college. One such read to us his contract, which amounted to the care of three cows and the making up and marketing of their products, to be completed by the return of the cows in good condition at the end of the set period. The cowman had to charge his own time among his expenses at a standard rate, but he had earned a good profit. It was most interesting to find among the agricultural students Mr. Cardozo, the son of a West African Native landowner, learning at Hampton how to go back and teach his own people more enlightened agriculture. The whole idea of Hampton is to train the teachable and then send them forth to leaven the lump. High ethical standards are taught, and practically the entire percentage of *alumni* do the Institute splendid credit. It is largely the achievement of Hampton and its sister colleges to which is traceable the improving relations in the South between coloured and white folk.

From this inspiring picture one turns to something in "Chambers's Journal" for July, to which it is difficult to refer within the limits of conventional language. It is entitled "The Weirdness of West Africa," and is the work of Mr. Lawrence G. Green, who from internal evidence is a young person who has grown up in South Africa—where, by the way, a great section of the people who matter, the European Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church of the Orange Free State, have just taken a notable forward step by meeting in full synod a delegation of the Native side of the Church, the first time in the history of the country that such a meeting has taken place. Mr. Green has paid a flying visit to Sierra Leone, and he delivers himself of an effusion to which for poisonous rubbish and slander we do not recall a recent parallel. The life of African Sierra Leone is described as "pitiful mock-civilisation." Freetown, we are told, is "blatantly Sabbatarian," yet "never was there less meaning behind church and chapel-going"—a point which Mr. Green's length of residence of course enables him to decide. The spectacle of professional men at work who happen to be African reduces the author almost to spluttering incoherence: "It is all a nightmare, a shocking phantasmagoria." Mr. Green—one takes it that his Christan name really is Lawrence, and not Verdant—calls upon some traders, and these strong but apparently not quite silent men invite him to their rooms, "to tell us how things are going in England"—a country, of course, from which they are sundered by distance represented by the appalling period of something under a dozen days. Mr. Green tells the reader he "can see them now, those tense, seamed faces, half in shadow, near the oil-lamp; and even as they spoke the million and a half savages of the hinterland were beating their drums and selling human flesh in the open market." (Can the human flesh have included a cut of pulled leg à la Green?) "Of such things the traders spoke." Wickedly mischievous traders! Mr. Green also meets a young official, whom he calls Jones, who "knows a great deal more than the Colonial Office" (he naturally would, the Colonial Office having been acquiring facts and experience for only a couple of centuries or so). Jones "plays up" to the traders in his reception of the visitor: "West African Negroes . . . people of few ideas . . . become leopards (says Jones, his face contorted as with some vividly nauseating memory)." We all know those human leopards. They come from Sheffield.

Now, of course, we are not going to censure European traders and officials at Freetown for having their bit of fun. Pulling the leg of the travelling ass is a relaxation which no humane person would deny to our countrymen serving in the trying climate of West Africa. Still less do we mean to insult the African people of Sierra Leone by defending them against their ridiculous traducer, but it is something of a shock to find a magazine associated with the name of William Chambers publishing, in all seriousness, such stuff. It seems odd to reflect that a British publication, appearing in one portion of the Empire, apparently sees no reason why it should not publish broadcast vicious attacks upon British subects in another part of the same Empire. It is enough, intelligent Scotsmen will agree with us, to make the body of William Chambers turn in its grave.

Meanwhile, the Greens, verdant and otherwise, and perhaps not they alone, may usefully reflect, first, upon Sir F. G. Guggisberg's speech about Africans in London this week, and, secondly, upon a remark by one of the greatest of British scientists, Prof. J. A. Thomson, M.A., F.R.S., in the course of a recent comment ("Daily News," July 14), upon the Tennessee "Fundamentalist" trial :—

> It may also be noted, unpleasantly but firmly, that those who draw a much more than Jew-and-Samaritan line between themselves and a less evolved race, Negroes, for instance, regarding these not only as distant from themselves, like extinct Neanderthal Man, but as belonging (in spite of the facts) to an alien and immiscible stock, create by this non-intelligent, sub-conscious prejudice a mental disruption and lesion that obscures to them the irrationality of the fundamentalist panic, in which they naturally join.

PORTUGUESE AFRICA.

Our Delagoa Bay Letter.

FORCED NATIVE LABOUR.

Is it Slavery?

("African World" Resident Correspondent.)

LOURENÇO MARQUES, July 20.

The report of Professor Ross and Dr. Cramer, of America, on native labour in Angola and this province is much discussed both here and in the Union, and, I see from London cables, in your country also. Angola I know only from second-hand conversations with those who have resided there, but the Province of Mozambique is an open book to me, for after a residence of seventeen years, during which time I have travelled through and throughout, and been in close touch with its administrators, employers of labour, and the natives, I can truthfully state that there is not the slightest shadow of the system—now long passed—that existed here, as elsewhere—slavery.

The Portuguese system of native administration is built up on the principle that all men must work. It recognises the native race as an important section of the Province, and that on them rests—as well as on the Portuguese—the development of their native land. The system is not the creation of to-day, but has been in existence for a long time. Naturally, it began in the southern portion of the Province, extending to the banks of the Zambesi, and afterwards to the district of Mozambique. In that district there were native tribes which had not come under the influence of the Portuguese Government, but they were gradually subdued, not by ordinary warfare, but by a system of what is called web-nets; that is, a section was surrounded and military posts occupied, and the natives in the net were informed of the fact that the territory was under the government of the Portuguese flag, and that they would be required to obey those administrators appointed over them. The system took several years to work out in the whole of the district, but its results were remarkable, for, travelling, as I did, over that section, I found nothing but peace, obedience to authority, and perfect contentment. Indeed, wherever I went the native chiefs met me and brought presents for myself and food for my native bearers, provi-

ding special huts specially reserved for the "white man," and calling in the natives from their kraals to meet me and keep the time of my sojourn bright by music and dancing. When I prepared to resume my journey the native chiefs sent some natives forward to give notice to the next village of my approach, so that when I neared it I was met by its chief and family and crowds of his people. To-day this is maintained, for the travellers who go into the interior are received with the homage due to a royal personage, being hailed by the royal salute.

If the people were forced under a system of slavery such a thing could not happen, as they would fly into the dense bush out of sight of the hard taskmaster; but, on the contrary, as I have just stated, they gladly welcome the white man, give presents, and make his stay, or journey, pleasant and enjoyable.

The Native Labour System.

Having thus brought under their influence the native races of the Province, the Government applied the main principle of their civilisation—the necessity of labour. It was not a cruel system of hard and constant labour under a taskmaster with whip and lash, but a humane system, applied under special laws as to work, food, wages, etc., and it provided not for life, but the period of six months in the year, when such labour was a necessity. Moreover, the Government did not force the natives to work under its direction, leaving them free to choose their own employer. It was only in the case of natives who desired to remain idle that the Government made its power felt. If natives refused to take official guidance and warning, then they came under the law of necessary and compulsory labour. Thus, the system begun has continued, and has proved most excellent in operation, not only as far as good government is concerned, but for the natives themselves.

Let us follow the system. First, there is in the districts of Lourenço Marques, Gaza, and Inhambane, recruiting for the W.N.L.A. (the Rand mines). In each of the districts mentioned there are W.N.L.A. camps with a European in charge. But he does no actual recruiting, as the natives—many of them have been working for years under the system—inform the native runners that they desire to go to the mines or go direct to the European in charge. They are then examined as to fitness, given food and blankets, inspected medically, and forwarded to the receiving centre at Ressano, Gracia, where a fine camp has been erected. There they are again medically examined, inoculated against smallpox, further examined medically by the doctor from the Transvaal, and if passed sent to the mines.

These natives are contracted for one year, but experience has shown that most of them voluntarily contract for a further period of six months. Indeed most of them do so. Recruiting returns show that quite 75 per cent. of the natives that go to the Transvaal are boys who have been there before; it would appear that they only return to their kraals for a very limited period and then go back to the mines. This recruiting is, of course, quite voluntary on the part of the natives, no form whatever of compulsion or threat being adopted.

The American authorities who have made the accusations against the system seem to ignore the method adopted for finding labour for the Rand mines, dealing apparently only with the system employed for providing natives for local purposes. In that connection they state:—"Slavery in its old form has disappeared, but its place has been taken by a form of requisitioned labour, which, in effect, is far worse than the old domestic slavery." They also state that many of the natives do not receive any wages, and that women and children are forced to work.

The Recruiting System.

Hurried visits to a country—especially one like Mozambique, three times larger than the area of the Transvaal—and not knowing the language spoken by the natives, relying only upon native interpreters, is not a very satisfactory method of getting at the truth. It is well-known that in conversing with natives, in their replies they generally state what they think you would like them to say, and receiving such statements through an interpreter is equally unsatisfactory.

The fact is, that there is no recruiting association in the three districts I have mentioned—from here to Inhambane: the natives living in these parts well know the demand for labour in the sugar factories, cotton plantations, and other fields of husbandry, and if they desire to work in any of these the Government has laid down a scale of wages to be paid, the food to be given and the accommodation to be provided. The doors of the offices of their respective administrations are ever open to them if they have any complaint to make. These voluntary labourers are taken on for the month, and at the end of that time they are free to leave if they so desire. There is no such thing as notice, but should it happen that the natives do not care to work, but desire to remain idle in their kraals, then the Government, through its administrators call these indolent natives, and explain to them that as they have not taken work voluntarily, the State cannot permit them to remain idle, as it is contrary to law, and that work has been provided for them; it may be in their own neighbourhood, or at Lourenço Marques. The nature of the labour may be for stevedores, coaling contractors, the railway or wharf, or the P.W.D., but all such services are carried out by regulation regarding pay, medical attendance, hours of labour, food and accommodation. Payment of all natives for a period of six months—never longer—is thus guaranteed. All employers, be they Government departments, companies, or farmers, are required to lodge with the administrators in the circumscriptions from which they have been sent, monthly, in advance, the wages of the contracted natives. Of course, many of them are granted a few shillings every week while at work, but such sums are deducted from their money and credited to their employers by the respective administrators when they return at the end of their contract. When they do return to their respective circumscriptions they go direct to the administrator's office, and are paid before they return to their kraals. The writer has been present at one of the circumscriptions—that of Magude—on several occasions during payment of contract boys; and never saw a single instance where the native was not paid in full, or when any dissatisfaction was manifested. After the completion of the six months' period of service none of the natives can be called to compulsory service for another six months.

The military are never engaged in the collecting of natives for compulsory service—as stated by the Americans. It is done by the police boys of the administrators, who are local natives, and know these whom they call for such service. They are not apprehended, but go without force to the administration, and on no occasion do they attempt to run away from the police boy who called them. They are most docile and obedient. When it is remembered that the military force in the Province, having regard to the number of natives resident therein is a small one, and the fact that no military are stationed in the districts referred to, surely it speaks well for both Government and native as regards the system that has been portrayed as slavery? I have seen large gangs of these contract natives proceeding from their respective railway stations to Lourenço Marques, in charge of one native police boy, going away in a happy contented manner, giving no trouble, even leaving their compartments at stopping place on their way to speak to their friends, but never failing to return to their compartment on the train. They are not marshalled and watched as slaves would naturally be, but have every freedom. Indeed, at Lourenço Marques they enjoy the Saturday afternoon, and the Sunday, as a holiday, and go about freely in the town. That, then, is the condition of the natives, but what of the effect of such a system? It is most beneficial, tends to restrict crime, educates the natives into the system of civilisation, brings them into contact with and incorporates them into responsibilities of citizenship, and certainly makes them respect the authority of the State, and the call upon them to share in its development. Under such a system they have lived for many years, indeed, ever since the flag of Portugal waved over the Province, and it has become to them a system endured not alas, without complaint.

Indignant Feeling.

Can it be wondered, therefore, that there is a strong feeling of indignation manifested in Government circles, and among the inhabitants generally? A system which has been productive of so much good, and the creation of a peaceful native community, that has placed the white man in a place superior to that found in most other parts of Africa, that has banished crime, and given liberty, without protection for Europeans, to travellers in any part of the territory—in fact, to be welcomed in all parts—however remote from European settlements, this is described as "a form of requisitioned labour which, in effect, is far worse than the old domestic slavery."

Women and Children.

Before I close this part of my letter let me refer to the statement made about women and children. It is quite true that women are engaged in repairing roads, and with their children on their backs. But is that strange? Is it not seen everywhere, and these children lie on the side of the road until they demand to be fed, and no ganger ever attempts to prevent them giving the necessary food to their little ones. Moreover, they are paid for the work they do. Such work is generally arranged for between the Administrator and the native chiefs, as the roads are for their own benefit, and in every case these women live near the place where they work on the roads. In no case are women or children compelled to work for farmers, even on the light work of cotton-picking. Some growers made a request for such labour to be supplied, and the answer given was that the law did not permit the Government to force them to work. Of course, many women and children go voluntarily to such an occupation. But, as I explained in a previous letter, keeping roads in a good condition is considered by the natives who use them as a work which they have to do, and the women only work for a few days upon them.

XXX.

Native Labour Question.

LISBON, August 12.

The "Diario Noticias" publishes a protest against the report of the American Professor Edward Ross, on the subject of compulsory labour in Portuguese East Africa, which came before the Slavery Committee of the League of Nations. The journal contends that the legislative provisions governing the employment of native labour in the Portuguese colonies are of an exemplary nature.—Reuter.

Race Problem - 1925

Africa.

Native Protectorates.

It is remarkable that the Union Government should be anxious to incorporate the Crown Protectorates of Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland before endeavouring to put its own house in order. There cannot possibly be anything like an honest and sincere policy in such a movement on the part of the powers that be. We are still waiting for a declaration of policy and for its execution. We are under ominous clouds of new repressive laws and systems such as the sudden resuscitation of the troublesome Passes for Women in the Transvaal, and the dismissal of Native labourers from towns in favour of poor whites. The tide of Native unrest that held sway between 1918 and 1920 is sure to revive in 1925 if the rulers do not palliate the present position by undertaking nothing without previous consultation with the Bantu. 1-20-25

The principle of consultation has come to stay, and it is simply impossible to go back upon it without running grave risks in injuring the susceptibilities of the Bantu.

Chief Sekgoma, Paramount Chief of the Bamangwato voices the feeling of all ultra-Union Natives when he says neither he nor his people would willingly enter the Union.

His words are these:—

"My father before me and I myself have always been treated with the greatest consideration and thoughtfulness by the Imperial Government, and, owing to this, we are still a united and happy people. It is my earnest wish to live and die under the Imperial Government, as my father did.

"We are a contented people not like others who are under the Union Government. These people are oppressed and crying. They have practically lost the identity of their different tribes. I would strongly oppose any effort to include the Bamangwato Reserve in the Union. We are a free people. We have our cattle and our lands. It would in no way benefit us to enter the Union."

An I. C. U. Meeting.

Reuter says that at Bloemfontein last Wednesday Clements Kadalie, General Secretary of the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union, addressed a large mass meeting of natives, over fifteen hundred being present. Kadalie made an attack on the British as being hypocrites, and called upon native workers to organise and to become free men in their country.

The following are sample sentences from his speech: "Tell the white man he has robbed you for the last 200 years, robbed you in the land of your fathers. Kick up such a row that the white man cannot sleep." 1-20-25

"The white man tells you the native must develop along his own lines. What is that? I want you to live according to European standards."

"Our Congress in Johannesburg in April will ask the Government to bring in a Minimum Wages Bill for the whole of South Africa. If we can't get that we will tell the Government we will hold up the railway service and the entire mining industry. We mean it."

"My message to you for 1925 is" you must be free men and free women in the land of your fathers. Let that be your vision for the year. Get together everywhere and breathe the one word, I want to be a free man in South Africa."

"Make such an agitation everywhere that Parliament House will tremble."

The speaker was loudly applauded. The meeting unanimously passed a resolution requesting the Government to "abolish the pass system altogether, so that natives could sell their labour in the open market in a free country."

The local Press correspondent further adds that:—

"Lively interest has been aroused locally at the report of a native meeting held in the Waaihoek Location at which Clements Kadalie, General Secretary of the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union of South Africa, indulged in a provocative speech, in which he threatened that the native would hold up the railway service and the mining industry if the Government refused to bring in a Minimum Wage Bill for them. Several thousands of natives attended this meeting and Kadalie was received with tremendous enthusiasm.

In the course of a violent attack on the English people he said that in the Cape the Natives were now all Nationalists, and had no time for British ideals and traditions. The talk about British ideals was purely hypocrisy.

After referring in flattering terms to General Hertzog, whom he called a fine fellow, he nevertheless urged his hearers to "make such agitation that Parliament House will tremble." He said, further: "Tell the white man he has robbed you for the last 200 years, robbed you in the land of your fathers. Kick up such a row that the white man cannot sleep."

Indignation is expressed here that paid native agitators from the Cape should be allowed to come here and disturb the minds of the local native population, which numbers over 20,000 in Bloemfontein alone, without check from the authorities. Kadalie referred in his speech to the fact that he was refused permission to address a meeting in Durban, and it is felt that if he intends carrying out his inflammatory propaganda into places like Basutoland which is said to be his object, the authorities should put a stop to it. His remarks throughout were of a most intemperate character.

The Union and Protectorates

(By S. M. B. Ncwana.)

The article entitled "Naboth's Vineyard" from the pen of that able writer and philanthropist Vere Stent, which appeared in the "Pretoria News" is highly appreciated by the Native community of the Union, and I may say from the recent correspondence I have had from Bechuanaland and Swaziland, is also much favourably commented upon by some of the inhabitants of those two Protectorates. The European deputation which is reported to have waited upon the Prime Minister, which purports to represent the community of the two Protectorates, were really representing the 2,000 whites in Bechuanaland and not the 250,000 Bechuanaland Natives. As a matter of fact not a single Native representative was included in that deputation, so that neither Legkoma nor Linchwe were represented. As for Swaziland, the members of that deputation had no mandate from the chief and the Native people of that Protectorate. Then it stands to reason that they spoke for a tiny minority of Europeans who entered the Protectorate for their selfish ends regardless of the best interests of the Natives; the Natives are therefore surprised that the Prime Minister should have given them a hearing at all. If the avowed policy of the present government is "segregation", why not leave well alone as these Protectorates are the existing examples of the success of segregation! Why drag them into the Union and cut short such interesting and so far favourable experiment? The admission of the Prime Minister that he has already too much to do, that Native Affairs require a Parliamentary Under Secretary should be enough for him not to further load the fork he is already unable to toss. To hand these territories over to the present administration of the Union which is already marked, whatever its declared policy may come to be, by acts of the grossest injustice towards and oppression of the Natives would be a betrayal of the trust imposed on the British Government, and would be to invert all the traditions of British fairness and decency.

There is no reason why these Native Protectorates should be dragged into the Union simply to suit the convenience of a few Europeans. Native Welfare Societies and kindred organisations are now about to work at once to stop this agitation to bring a free and happy people under the oppressive and unjust Native laws of the Union. I therefore suggest that the following native leaders from the Protectorates and the Union should be asked to be the delegation to interview the Governor-General on the matter. These should be Dr. Rubusana, Professor Jabavu, Dr. Molema, Mr. S. Ratshosa, Mr. Sol. Plaatje, Rev. Dube, Mr. Selope Thema, Mr. J. T. Gumede, and two Swaziland representatives.

Against The Government.

A Native correspondent in the "Fort Beaufort Advocate" piquantly remarks that:—

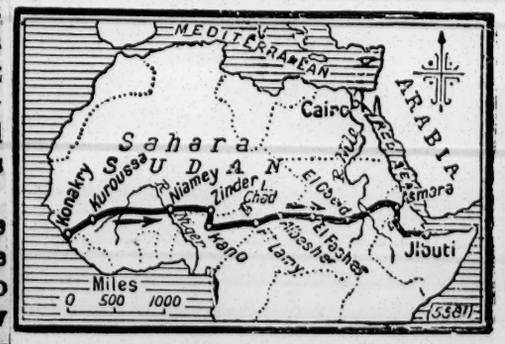
"The Kamastone native conference which took place on the 16th, 17th and 18th December at Hukuwe, attended by delegates from Kamastone, Herschel, Peddie, Victoria East and Fort Beaufort—is noted for always being "against the Government and everybody else, and it was no wonder that they passed resolutions against the introduction of the Bunga system and also against the Pretoria conference—both of which are provided for in the Native Administration Act of 1920. They pin their faith to the Ballot Box as the only true reflex of native opinion—such things as local self government are meaningless to them.

CROSSING AFRICA BY MOTOR-CAR.

French Party's Start for the Nile.

PARIS, February 5.

The "Times" Paris correspondent states that a telegram sent from El Fasher, the capital of Darfur province, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, announces the arrival there of M. Tranin's motor-car expedition, which is crossing Africa from Konakry on the coast of



Block reproduced by courtesy of "The Times."

French Guinea to Jibuti in French Somaliland. The party left again yesterday to con-

tinue their journey towards the White Nile. Only one of the two cars which started now remains, the other having been abandoned in marshy ground near Lake Chad. The vehicle has an apparatus which enables palm oil to be used as fuel, but in other respects is an ordinary car.

It is stated that the expedition, which is the first to have crossed the Marra mountains in a motor-car, was given a hearty welcome by the British authorities in Darfur. During the journey from Abeshr the party had to avoid an extensive bush fire and also had great difficulty in clearing a way through 12 miles of tropical forest.

KENYA'S SECOND MAIZE CONFERENCE.

THE HON. ALEX HOLM, Director of Agriculture of Kenya, has been good enough to favour us with a copy of the report of the proceedings of the Second Maize Conference, recently held at Nairobi. It is a document that deserves the careful study of everyone interested in the East African maize industry, whether as producer, shipper, broker or buyer. East Africa

How swiftly that industry has developed is proved by the export figures for the past three years. In 1921-22 the Colony's export amounted to 50,266 bags; in the next year they had jumped to 467,268 bags, and for 1923-24 totalled 642,680 bags. At the end of June in the years 1922-3-4 the areas under maize on European holdings showed advances from 74,747 to 99,764, and then to 141,147 acres. 2-2-25

As was pointed out by His Excellency the Governor in opening the Conference, three, and perhaps four, new branch railway branch lines of great importance to the industry were in prospect: the Kitale, Solai, and Nyeri branches, on which work is proceeding, will tap important maize areas and increase facilities for production.

The proportion of European-grown to Native-grown maize over yearly periods (November-October) is worthy of note: for 1922-3 the percentage of Native-grown exported was 56, but in the following year it had fallen to 27, the decrease of more than 100,000 bags of Native maize in the latter period being chiefly due to seasonable conditions. For the first time, the Kikuyu reserve is contributing a considerable quantity of maize for export, and by the distribution of white flat maize seed purchased from European growers Government is encouraging production of maize of a better quality and higher yielding power in the Reserve.

Between November 1, 1922, and October 31, 1924, grading fees were paid on 647,660 bags of maize inspected, of which quantity 50,000 were rejected for grade: 60 per cent. were graded under No. 2 (flat white), 1·2 per cent. under No. 2 (slightly weevily), 10·4 per cent. under No. 7 (mixed Native), 18·6 per cent. under No. 8 (undergrade), of which 13·3 per cent. were certified as slightly weevily. No "round white" and "flat yellow" was offered, and of the remaining grades, 0·3 per cent. and 0·6 per cent. respectively fell under No. 5 (round yellow) and No. 6 (mixed).

The maize drying and cleaning plant, which Government has decided to instal and operate for the promotion of the maize industry, has been on order for some time and has been ready for shipment since September last, but there is some hitch regarding the steel frame building in which it is to be accommodated.

After the speeches of Sir Robert Coryndon and the Hon. Alex Holm, discussion took place on a number of matters of importance to the industry, particularly on the subjects of block-stacking, bagging, the use of hooks, check-weighing, and the use of the Mbaraki Pier for export purposes.

It was decided that the statistical year for the maize grading services should henceforth be taken from July 1 to June 30. A consulting committee on matters relating to the maize industry was formed, comprising the Director of Agriculture, His Majesty's Trade Commissioner, one member representing the Kenya Farmers' Association and Plateau Maize Growers conjointly, and one member of the Mombasa Chamber of Commerce (nominated through the Associated Chambers), and one representative of the Railway.

IN SOUTH AFRICA the Minister of Justice recently announced a system of punishment based on the theory that the severity of a sentence should be determined by the position and race of the offender. Thus, he held in effect, true equality might be achieved by giving a white man a six-months' sentence and a colored man a six-years' sentence for identical offenses—the social and personal effect on the white man would be so much greater per month than that on the Negro. But somehow we doubt if the hypothetical Negro in the case would say to himself or the judge: "That's right, after all. My nerves are strong and my relatives are all common, democratic people who will think little the worse of me. But a white man—of course, he's different. Sensitive, proud, he might even get dropped from his club. No wonder he gets five and a half years less than me, poor fellow." We doubt it, and we doubt the wisdom of adopting, or applying, a system which the vast majority of people are sure to consider discriminatory and grossly unjust. So, when we read of a clubman and golf enthusiast in San Francisco who is convicted of disturbing the public peace and is ultimately let off with a fine of $10 because of the "humiliation" he underwent in the course of his arrest and trial, we wonder whether the membership of the I. W. W. on the coast did not increase during that week.

UGANDA COTTON PICKING STARTED.

From Our Resident Correspondent.

Kampala, December 29, 1924.

ON New Year's Day cotton buying for the new season will commence in the Eastern Province of Uganda, whence comes the greatest quantity of our cotton crop. Picking has actually commenced, and the prospects are of the very best. In the Eastern Province everything is well—as well as one could hope for where the elements of chance and good weather mix it a bit. From now on, the whole Protectorate will be busy as nailers, as the saying is, and money will commence to circulate in ever-increasing quantities. Already the towns in the Eastern Province present an animated appearance, and shopkeepers anticipate the best and busiest time they have experienced here for many a year. East Africa 2-2-25

To obtain information in the matter of progress one has to get hold of someone who was in a province or district years ago, and gone back to it again.

Jinja and Kumi.

Such a person I met recently. A decade ago he had been a pretty prominent personage there, and so he appreciated the changes he saw. Jinja town, he says, has been completely metamorphosed, in that new shops have sprung up all over the place. Though Jinja must, in a way, become a dead end when the new railway comes through, yet he is of opinion that the merchants believe they will have more than recovered their outlay by then.

My informant is convinced that the coming place is Kumi, which will be the railhead of the line going *via* Mbale. In the Eastern Province he finds full evidence of past success in cotton, but there is, in his opinion, no sure foundation for the future, as the Natives there spend as fast as they make. Government, he adds, should do something to encourage saving for a rainy day and bad seasons, and should stimulate the buying of stock, goats and other property, instead of watching the wasting of money on bicycles and fancy clothes.

Creating Demands.

That is one way of looking at things. But it seems to me that to promote the sale of bicycles and fancy cloths and other manufactured goods creates in the mind of the native a desire and an urge to go and earn the wherewithal to acquire more.

Without a longing for the visible signs of civilization the Native will not do a tap of work beyond that which serves to supply him with food and drink and women. The more expensive the luxury he craves the better is it for the country, for himself, and, incidentally, for us.

In the cotton season the Native spends lavishly. His wants are becoming legion. It is our forte to supply these wants as well as to create them, and this way we will get work out of him, and raise him to wider ideas.

Cotton Growing Potentialities.

Although my correspondent says that everywhere you look in the Eastern Province there is cotton, cotton, and yet more cotton, there is room there for twenty times the quantity which is produced to-day. Sir Geoffrey Archer, our recent Governor, recognized this fact, which is nothing new to anyone who keeps an observant eye on the march of events.

The cotton crop in Uganda this season will go well over 200,000 bales of lint, but so far as available ground is concerned, Uganda could produce one hundred times this quantity. The whole difficulty is labour and transport, if we except capital.

Labour is the chief stumbling block. When it is recognized that there will come a limit to the supply, then more up-to-date methods of handling the industry must be introduced, and in this way we must minimize as much as possible the drawback of the want of labour.

Race Problem 1925.

Africa.

Government Native Labour Policy.

There is no difficulty in admitting that the statement of the Prime Minister on Native Affairs, whatever objections points the careful study of it may reveal, contains some valuable information for serious thought by the entire body of the native leaders of the Union. We all hate hypocrisy, but yet we all practice it because it is more polite. and yet hating it as we do, some people in this country of ours are honoured for it. We should like in the light of this declaration to draw the attention of the working classes of the Union to statements in the Prime Minister's speech which, deserve special note:

"I say that with regard to the Industrial development of the Natives, the European in South Africa cannot be blamed if he says: In the first place I have to look to the well-being and the existence of myself. Therefore, where you have to day a certain Industrial undertkaing, as in the Ralways, which is almost exclusively the result of the labour of Europeans and European civilisation, there you white man shall, in the first place, be *entitled* to serve as a labourer. There are other lines of Industry where the same holds good, and the *Native cannot blame us* if in the first place we try to *find work for our own class*. That is the position the government have taken up in regard to Europeans, *that is really the policy* which has been put into practice."

This statement, coming as it does, from the Prime Minister of the Union, is disappointing in the extreme. General Hertzog without considering the serious effect of his utterance on a white community so highly wedded and wrapped up with colour discriminating laws, unhesitatingly gives his blessings to all the projected colour bar legislation. Never in the history of this country has such a declaration escaped from the lips of a first Minister of the Crown of a British dominion As far as the black workers are concerned there is certainly a spirit of panic abroad. The policy of funk, are studying workers, all over the country, for humanity principles differently that events are getting out of from the course adopted by the hands, and that the bread and recognised nations of the world. butter policy of the government 'The greatest good of the greatas far as they are concerned is est Number." This principle drifting into dangerous waters. is that which any Government of Thousands and tens of thousands the Union should ever keep in of poor helpless workers are view as its primary aim and starving and dying as fast as the object. So great, indeed, is it government has prohibited the that it transcends all others. The engagement of their labour. "The equality of races and tribes upon native cannot blame us!" The which peace must be founded, if starving native will blame even it is to last, must be an equality the devil if he cannot find food to of rights in education, in politics, feed himself and his family. in industry. Right must be Plainly speaking, even the most based upon the common illiterate red-blanket blackman strength, not upon the individis fast loosing faith on the Prime dual strength, of the race upon Minister and his Labour and which an orderly state depends. other Ministers. Since the Union, No Government can last for any fourteen years ago, there has length of time which does not rebeen too much of talking and cognise and accept the universal little achieved. and this much we princple that healthy Governcan say, that nothing will ever be ments derive all their just pdone by harangues. To satisfy wers from the consent of the the starving blackman and his governed, no matter the colour of family the Prime Minister will their skin. South Africa has have to put on his best thinking built up its great wealth through cap, pull up his socks and get the loyal help and assistance of down to work to apply a more the blackman whom the Prime equitable native labour policy Minister now declares should be which will immediately provide thrown out into the street to us with, at least, enough bread starve and die. In another paraand meat. We still remember graph the Prime Minister says: very well when, the leaders of the "The Native is an asset to the African National Congress and state" Agreed. Is the state an the I.C.U. passed a vote of no asset to the Native??? What confidence on the S.A. Party justification is there for the Government. We were told that Government to cut our throats when the Pact Government got and the coming generation of into power they would very the Natives by such cowardly soberly realise, and very wisely legislation as the *Mines and* use, the great powers which *Works Colour Bar Amendment* have now been committed to *Bill, Liquor Law Amendment* them in giving the black man of *Bill, The Criminal Procedure Bill,* South Africa an opportunity to *Emergency Powers Bill*, and the build his own paradise. Yes, to *Wages Bill?*

dig his own grave! According to the Prime Minister the prestige of the whiteman in South Africa, to use that hackneyed phrase, must be maintained, even at the cost of human life (starving Natives). This policy of the government without the slightest shadow of a doubt, will constitute a great difficulty in the ultimate solution of the black and white problem. It would seem that the white people of South Africa taking as their creed the

One thing is certain:—that no law can work effectivaly which does not reflect the spirit of the Community for which it is enacted. If any Government of this country tries to enact into law only that which expresses the spirit of a small coterie or of an artificial oligarchic majority, it ought to know before hand that such a law cannot work.

"It is a great gift of the Gods to be born with a hatred and contempt of all injustice and meanness. The Prime Minister on the question of the Native Franchise is reported to have said. "I feel one thing very clearly in South Africa, and it is this, that on the basis we are going on to day we cannot go on. If this basis has to be changed it will involve many points of considerable interest and importance, both for Europeans and Natives. The question of the vote will necessarily be one of them."

Time and again we have made our position clear with regard to the Vote that we are not prepared to sacrifice one jot of our rights. All attempts to tamper with the Parliamentary privileges of the Native people of the Cape of Good Hope will emphatically be opposed by the entire population of this Province. The political liberties of the Cape have not been abused in any shape or form by His Majesty's Native subjects and the very innuendo of the Prime Minister to dispossess Native citizens of the Cape Province of their vested political rights will be regarded, by the entire black race of this Province, as an impending piece of gross injustice that will never pass unchallenged.

"The fearless man is his own salvation;
His heart for the world is Freedom's throne:
Though he be out numberd a hundred to one,
It shall not suffice to daunt his doing:
If twice or thrice the hosts of wrath
Should force him back, they will find
Him ever again in their path,"

—Robert Bridges

PROBLEMS OF POPULATION.

Whites Outnumbered by 20 to 1.

The problem of Rhodesia's lack of population may prove to be insoluble in fifteen year's time. This is the opinion of Mr. R. D. Gilchrist, M.L.A., who in an address to his constituents at Umvuma pointed out that the white population—a handful of transplanted Europeans—were outnumbered by 20 to 1 by an indigenous race multiplying in intelligence and number. Including the 100.000 alien natives, the proportion was 27 to 1.

The key to the solution of the problem, which to-day was capable of adjustment, lay, he said, in the Crown lands. Crown land could only be alienated once. The money received by the Government for it was of comparatively little importance. Everything depended on settling the right class of settlers on the land under conditions which afforded reasonable opportunities for success. The land should not be regarded by the State as a primary source of revenue. The valuable and lasting source of State revenue lay in a prosperous community. At present their 43.000.000 acres of vacant land were a serious liability. To attempt to settle those under conditions unfavourable to the settler would result in ruin. It was plain, therefore, that they must get the country occupied.

Depressing Figures.

What was the situation to-day? The last report of the Director of Lands showed not land settlement but land de-settlement in operation. The Colony was hopeful that the change in our system of government would bring an influx of settlers, but in the year ended March 31, 1924. while only 60 farms were taken up, 80 were relinquished. The dreary and disconcerting fact that the number of occupied farms was reduced by 20 during the year spoke for itself. Of the farms taken up 15 were held under mortgage title, 18 sold for cash, 18 sold under new agreement of purchase, one permit of occupation, and eight were leases with option of purchase, bringing the total up to 60. Of the farms relinquished five were held under mortgage title, 71 under permits of occupation, and four were leases with option of purchase, making a total of 80 and a reduction of 20 for the period.

The men and the money were available for settlement—they had ample scope for both. If good terms of land settlement were offered and widely advertised, they could get the population they required. In the past the Crown lands had been sold to raise revenue. Other countries had tried the same methods and had failed. They must therefore relinquish the outworn idea, take the long view of making success possible for the settler, and incidentally providing a lasting source of revenue for the State.

If free grants of land were necessary to secure the quality and quantity of settlers required, they should be made, but such was not the case. Free land would temporarily, at least, reduce land values and affect the credit of the farming community. That fact, he thought, had dictated to some extent the Government's policy in the matter, together with the lack of prosperity in the farming industry, but the course was fundamentally wrong. Prosperity could only come from increased production, the result of better conditions and larger population.

Natives and Justice.

The Rev. Mr. Rider asked the the Minister of Justice in the House of Assembly recently:

1, Whether his attention had been drawn to the case of Rex vs. Stroebel, tried before the Circuit Court at Bethlehem, Orange Free State where the accused was charged with causing the death of a native by chaining him to a horse which subsequently bolted, causing fatal injuries to the native. Stroebel being ac-

quisted by the jury; and

2. Whether, in view of the recognised difficulty of securing convictions from juries in cases of offences by white men against natives, he will take steps to secure the alteration of the law so as to provide for such cases being heard without a jury? Answer 1. Yes. 2. I do not admit that there is difficulty in securing such convictions where the white men are found to be guilty. Exceptional cases of course occur where wrong verdicts are given, but these are not more numerous than in any other class of cases or than in any other part of the world. It is not my intention to propose an alteration of the law in the direction suggested.

An African Judge.

Sir Gordon Guggisberg has taken a long step forward in his policy of advancing Africans if properly qualified by attainments and character to important and responsible positions in the government of their country by the appointment of Mr. Charles Woolhouse Bannerman, Police Magistrate of Cape Coast since 1919, to a seat on the judicial bench as an Acting Puisne Judge. It is so many years since a man of African birth held judgeship that Mr. Bannerman's appointment comes as a novelty to the present generation. For many years in the last century a seat on the Bench of the Gold Coast was occupied by the late Mr. Francis Smith. The chief judicial post in the Gambia was held by the late Mr. Joseph Renner Maxwell. These were substantive appointments, but acting judicial appointments were also held by Sir Samuel Lewis, as Chief Justice of Sierra Leone; Mr. Francis Smith, as Chief Justice of the Gold Coast (and incident thereto as Acting Governor); and Mr. McCarthy (who was at the time Attorney-General), as Puisne Judge on the Gold Coast. The people have expressed their gratitude to His Excellency for an appointment which will act as a conspicuous example and encouragement to the youth of the Colony to fit themselves for the opportunities which the liberal and enlightened policy of the Governor and the British Government is now opening to them. Thanks are also given to Mr. Acting Chief Justice Hall, on whose recommendation the appointment was made. The tradition of faith in the even-handed fairness of British justice, founded by George Maclean and established by his successors, Marshall, Chalmers, Macleod, Nicholl, Griffith, Logan, and other well-remembered judges, has been carried on and strengthened by Mr. Justice Hall, who has thus been instrumental in obtaining the elevation of the first native of the Gold Coast to judicial honours, the previous African occupants of the Bench having all been natives of Sierra Leone. Every member of the Bars of all the Colonies will be encouraged by this promotion to fit himself for a similar post. W. F. H

African Churches and British Missions and Governments.

During his stay at Lagos the Prince received an address from several African Churches, signed by the Most Rev J. G. Campbell, Senior Patriarch, West African Episcopal Church, presiding Patriarch, Christ Army Church G.B.C.; Rev. J. A. Victor Pratt, Patriarch, West African Episcopal Church, Accra, Gold Coast; and Rev. T. Marshall, Patriarch, National Church of Christ Mission, W.A.E.C.C. In the course of the address, which was presented through the Governor, the signatories remarked:

Your Royal Highness will have noticed the thousands of loyal subjects who crowded the foreshore of Lagos when the "Attendant" steamed in with your Royal Highness on board. As ministers of the Gospel who move freely amongst all classes, we can assure your Royal Highness that they came from no vain curiosity to see a strange and exalted personage, but from a genuine sense of loyalty and gratefulness to our Soverign Lord the King, your Royal father, for one could hear from many lips, say, in the Yoruba language, "Awa nlo ki Omo oba wa," which in English means, "We are going to welcome the son of our King." This shows that your Royal Highness is regarded as no stranger, for you are our own. You are our King's son, and we are proud of you and grateful to God.

Your Royal Highness may be surprised at the enthusiastic and loyal welcome that you have received from all sections, and especially from the indigenous population, from the Gambia to Nigeria; but your Royal Highness need not be surprised, for this good seed has been sown through many years of toil, labour, perseverance and self-sacrificing efforts by Christian missionaries from Great Britain, many of whom laid down their lives for our sakes, and also by the labours and efforts of the officers of his Majesty's Government, who, by kind, firm, fair, just, and equitable administration, have made us to love all that is British and has endeared our affection to the British Empire and through God's grace has brought peace, happiness and contentment on the millions of his Majesty's subjects in West Africa, and, considering all that Great Britain has done for our race, we pray Almighty God that British West Africa will continue faithful, loyal and grateful subjects of the British Empire.

The Prince in reply said it had given him "great pleasure" to read the address.

A "FAREWELL" TO SIR HUGH CLIFFORD.

The "Lagos Weekly Record" of May 2 devotes the bulk of its pages to an article on Sir Hugh Clifford and his administration of Nigeria. We must confess to being unaware as to how far the newspaper in question may be considered as representative of the people in Lagos and the Southern Provinces, but sincerely trust that it is merely the organ of a disgruntled minority. A more dastardly and graceless attack upon a great administrator and his work it has seldom been our fate to peruse; and nothing better calculated to support the arguments of those who would deny to the African his right to participate in the government of the colony could really be imagined. From first to last the megalomania peculiar, it would seem, to the partially educated negro is given full play, and the result is an insult to the intelligence of even those for whom the journal in question specially caters.

April this year will be noted for a number of non-European conferences held in different centres. The tone of some of the speeches cannot be said to have been guided by wisdom, and the spirit, ugly in the extreme, of threatening language will do more harm than good to the native cause especially at this time when the Pact Government is passing panic legislation aimed at the native people. It would seem that a section of the A.P.O. have seceded and formed themselves into a Coloured Bond—the name evidently being borrowed from the old Afrikander Bond started in the Cape Province by the late Mr. J. Hofmeyr (Onze Jan.). The new association was addressed by three ministers.—Fort Beaufort "advocate."

MOULDING THE AFRICAN.

"If Africa is to have a future, its essential problem must be the future of the African. You cannot leave him as he is. Closed doors have been opened and they will never be shut again. If European influences are to mould the African, we had better make up our minds at once what we want to mould him into," urges Mr. H. Wilson Harris in the *Daily News*. "To try, even unconsciously, to turn him into a black European, is to take the road to complete disaster. Can he be made a citizen of Africa, proud and conscious of his citizenship? If so, you must make him into the kind of citizen Africa needs.

"That is by no means the tendency so far. European settlers want Native labour for their own purposes. European traders want Africans as clerks; European administrators want Africans as minor officials; missionaries are a little inclined to want to impart book-learning for the making of Native evangelists. Nothing can be saner than the insistence of these Phelps-Stokes Commissioners, including American and Englishmen and one highly-educated African graduate, on the need, on the one hand, for the training of agriculturists and artisans, and, on the other hand, for the development of general and practical education that shall concern itself with the building of character, the safeguarding of health, the improvement of family life, and the practice of sound recreation."

THE LIBERIAN SITUATION

By Solomon Porter Hood, D. D.

It has not been possible for me to speak to the church through our periodicals as much during the past few years as I once did. As is known by some I have for the past ten or fifteen years written the "Practical Points" for the Sunday School teachers' quarterlies of the church. This work coupled with other duties, especially those of my present post, leave no time for such carefully prepared articles as should appear in our church periodicals. Besides, government regulations are such that foreign officials must be exceedingly careful of their public expressions.

Circumstances on this field are such, however, that I am compelled to say a word.

The energy, indefatigable work and will of Bishop Brooks is known at home. He did not have to be elevated to the bench to reveal his worth to the church, his zeal for a great cause, or his ability to do big things.

The churches in America have been generous and kind; the Women's Board has been most prompt and helpful; but for this the work might have failed. The work, however, is increasing. It is a heavy load being pushed or pulled up grade. Any relaxation of effort permits it to slip back. It can only be kept up as the church will continue to uphold the arms of this Moses, as he seated on a stone in this wilderness holds up his hands by encouragement, while the forces under his command fight the battle of the living God.

The exigencies of the field are again driving Bishop Brooks to his home base for new supplies.

God grant that the noble hearts who are sensitive to the cry of God's needy ones may hear and answer.

If the church had not wanted a large program carried out in Africa it should not have sent Bishop Brooks here. His heart is too big and his zeal too great to stand and face the stupendous need and the wonderful opportunities that present themselves here, without his soul pouring itself forth in effort.

Bishop Brooks believes the church does want this work done. He feels it because of the response that has so nobly been given him at home by churches, and the wonderful help of the Women's Board in its faithful, regular meeting of all its promises.

The church work here is making progress, especially in the sections most needed, that is among the aboriginal population, the interior is called the hinterland or backland. It is here during the past two years that we have seen the greatest progress.

The work has been pushed nine days' walk back interiorward. Here are needed parochial schools and pastors capable of teaching them. The Monrovia College, one of, if not the finest educational buildings in Liberia, needs more efficient equipment for effective service. The work is hampered because the church is unable to always meet the pressing missionaries.

Race Problem— 1925. I.

Africa.

THE SIERRA LEONEANS AND THEIR LAND.—XVI

The "right of search" was for a long time a stumbling-block to the Abolitionists and a retardation to the work of the Freetown Courts. The matter led to much discussion between Britain and America, and, in 1823, John Quincy Adams proposed "that, in lieu of conceding the mutual right of search and trial, Great Britain should adopt the principle of the Act passed in the United States, in 1820, declaring the slave trade to be piracy." This was done by Britain in 1824. But it failed to work effectively. West Africa

The masters of slave-ships now registered their human cargoes as salt, palm-oil, country-cloth, camwood, wax, ivory and gold dust, kolas, and other legitimate commerce. They took out Portuguese licences, and, although the fees were thereby made heavier, over-estimated the tonnage of their ships 1-31-25

The penalty of forfeiting a ship was laughed at by men who could make a profit of £40,000 in a single voyage, as the brig, "Venus," did in 1839, her market being Havannah.

At last it was decided to break up all the condemned ships, and Thompson's Bay, where they were anchored, gained the name of Destruction (now Fourah) Bay, because of this. At once there arose a new trade and settlers and newcomers alike prospered in it. Ships' fittings were bought to send to England and America, the divided hulls were made by Kroo boat-builders into vessels of other types, the ordnance was smuggled away into the hinterland, bought at great price by aspiring African Napoleons, and the powder stored away in hulks up the river.

Very gradually the Law won. From 1810, in 20 years the British Squadron only took 333 slave-ships, but in the next 10 years they captured nearly 750. The report of the Court in 1850 states that "not a single cargo of slaves has been taken away from any part of the Coast between Sierra Leone and Senegal," the previous year. Later it was asserted that the only three localities on all the West Coast where the trade still flickered were the Rio Pongos, the Bight of Benin, and the Congo Delta.

The African Institution had laboured until the tide turned, and then they merged their affairs in their own branch organisation, founded in 1823, the Anti-Slavery Society. Ten years after that foundation, their Emancipation Bill passed, giving freedom to slaves throughout all the British Colonies, and at the same time awarding an indemnification to slave-owners of £20,000,000. Slavery was to cease on August 1st, 1834. The "Emancipation" was fettered for four years longer, by the system of 'apprentices," but after 1838 it can be said to have been freed from every shackle.

And in this colony, this home prepared for the ex-slave, out of the host that had passed from slave-ship through the King's Yard to liberty, 50,000 were living, a large percentage of whom were thriving in their new environment. And when that stalwart knight of theirs, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, whose life had just spanned the struggle (1786-1845), died, from these liberated Africans went £100 towards the cost of the monument erected to his memory in Westminster Abbey, and another £80 to procure the bust that now occupies an important place in their chief place of religious assembly, St. George's Cathedral, Freetown.

Mayibuye i Afrika.

We make no apology in reproducing the following paper read by the Rev. Bernard Huss, on "Native Agriculture and Industries" at the recent Johannesburg Conference. It runs thus:—

"The ability of the Natives to become efficient peasants or small farmers is clearly evident by the good results which are obtained wherever some training in agriculture is given and a corresponding effort is made. Having spoken to hundreds of humble Native men on farming for some years I am fully convinced of the good will of the people to get more knowledge of agriculture and to apply it in their tillage operations. Dec, 30 - 1924 However an adequate incentive in that direction is often still lacking on account of inadequacy of land or insecurity of tenure, and there is no doubt that the cry for land is increasing. Our African brother is not merely a tool, but just as human as we, with instincts, feelings, ambitions and anxiety to provide a simple and comfortable home for himself and his children. Let us look at the problem through African glasses. What inducement to improved agriculture would we have under existing conditions?

Every country must have its agrarian evolution or revolution according to the teaching of the history and a sound agrarian policy is the only possible foundation for peace in this country. Let therefore the white section of the community be convinced of the crying need of a satisfactory solution of the land question so as to enable the Natives to develop on their own rural lines into a race of frugal and contented peasants.

INDUSTRIES.

Just as branches and leaves develop from the stem, so industries spring from agriculture. By industries we mean activities for satisfying human needs by providing food, clothing and shelter and human wants by acquiring the commodities and amenities of a cultured life. If the Natives are to develop on their own lines in order to satisfy their own three fundamental needs, they will have to produce.

(a) Food: by devoting themselves to agriculture in its various branches, producing grain, vegetables, fruit, milk, cheese and butter, raising fowls and pigs, preserving meat and fruit, learning scientific cookery etc.;

(b) Clothing: by spinning and weaving as it is done in India and elsewhere, knitting, sewing, mending, learning laundry work and soap making, doing leatherwork, manufacturing strawhats etc.;

(c) Housing: by learning brick making, building, woodwork and ironwork, simple carpentry to make furniture, pottery, basketry, mat weaving etc.;

The African Natives have already shown considerable ability and great skill in handicrafts under proper guidance.

The following principles are suggested upon which Natives should be guided. They should harness and develop the creative or constructive instinct which is in danger of dying out in this age of machinery. If the African millions should not become second-hand or sham Europeans, but first hand or genuine Africans, then they must employ African skill and use African material for satisfying the needs and wants of a plain and frugal African life. They should use the knowledge and guidance, the conveniences and appliances of our race, thus grafting on African stock suitable elements of European culture. There is something in the slogan *Mayibuye iAfrika* (Let Africa come back)! Handcrafts have now been introduced in the Native Schools in order to bring back something of the good of old Africa by reviving genuine African industries which are in danger of dying out. Let the old African industries and the genuine African Life, simple and frugal, come back.

Difficulties which are in the way are many and great and apparently insurmountable, but they can be overcome as it was done elsewhere. Only a few difficulties can be slightly touched here. By industries Natives understand some business that would bring big and quick returns, whereas Native industries must first aim at service and home consumption, not at profits and export, and an enormous amount of patience will be needed for their proper evolution. The objects produced may not be good enough to those Africans who have acquired European tastes therefore a market for African objects must first be created by African consummers. Natives like many other people prefer the line of least effort and consider it therefore easier to buy than to produce objects, but production must be more emphasised than consumption. The industries will have to be run on co operative lines but co-operation must still be learnt by a slow, painful and sometimes expensive process. The real stimulus for Natives is lacking, and they should remember that money alone does not make a nation. True race pride should be a spur and inducement.

The African leaders should educate the public opinion of their race, modify their outlook, encourage development of their race through effort, and self activity, arouse true race pride and a desire to evolve a genuine African culture as embodied and expressed in African industries. Initiative and production must be more emphasised than imitation and consumption. Such ideals would help the Africans to work out their own evolution on their own lines through the development of agriculture and genuine African industries.

UGANDA LABOUR PROBLEMS.

By George C. Ishmael.

We have been privileged to see a memorandum presented to the East African Parliamentary Commission by Mr. Geo. Ishmael, one of the oldest and best known settlers in Uganda. From his statement we extract the following: East Africa

"Are we justified in dividing the Protectorate into 'productive' and 'unproductive' areas? I submit not. It is true that certain parts of the West Nile, Ankole, Toro and Kigezi are not suitable for the cultivation of cotton, but are they, for this reason, to be termed 'unproductive?' 1-29-25.

"These districts may not produce cotton, but the West Nile, Ankole and Kigezi are all very fine stock districts and Toro can grow some very good wheat. With a strong Veterinary Department and an Agriculture Department not so engrossed in cotton as this Department is at present, these countries would provide us and the Eastern Congo with butter, meat, ghee and wheat, which we now import from Kenya. They would also very largely increase the hide and skin trade, which is gradually reviving, and which holds no mean place in our export list at present. I advocate the development of the natural resources of these districts as soon as possible.

"Should large numbers of the manhood of these districts be taken away from their homes and be brought into contact with Baganda and other peoples whose morals are infinitely below that of the Kigezi and West Nile peoples?

"There would be some justification for the introduction of Natives from the Western Province and the West Nile into Buganda, Busoga, and other parts of the Eastern Province if the supply of local labour were not sufficient for the demand. Local labour in these districts may have to be augmented when work of magnitude and of an exceptional character, such as the construction of a railway, is to be undertaken, but I venture to think that if the Muganda, Musoga, &c., did an honest day's work there would be no necessity for the introduction of outside labour for plantations, ginneries, and other enterprises.

"I say with all deference that the present method of gauging a man's 'productivity'—e.g., by dividing the value of cotton produced in his district by the number of taxpayers therein—is not sound. Until we have means of ascertaining what 'foreign' labour is used in the cultivation of cotton in Buganda, Busoga, &c., it is not accurate to say that because the Muganda's cotton sales average so many shillings per capita that he, and not a Mugishu, Aluru, Mukongo, or a Muhutu, who has been induced to come to Buganda to earn a few shillings and is going back to his home diseased, is the real producer.

"Let us admit that there is a labour shortage, say, in Buganda and Busoga. I think there are two main reasons for this: (*a*) disinclination for work by the indigenous population, and (*b*) waste of labour owing to antiquated methods, lack of supervision and tuition, and labour-saving devices and appliances.

"I confess I cannot suggest any means of making a Native work if he does not want to. Some say he would put in longer hours and do a better day's work if he were properly fed. Who is better fed than the house boy? It takes about six of these to do the work of an English maid or a Zulu boy. Who puts in a longer day than the vegetarian Indian ryot or the Chinaman? I am afraid it is not a question of feeding, but of sheer indolence.

"Our present haphazard and archaic methods of making roads, puddling clay, mixing concrete, laying bricks, pulling out grass blade by blade, digging drains, carting bricks, firewood, rolling roads, planting, harvesting, and so on by manual labour must cease, and we must adopt modern methods and educate the Native to use mechanical appliances and other labour-saving devices.

"Then the Public Works Department will not require 12,000 men a month (figure supplied by the Governor), and it will not be necessary to make an unfortunate Native from Kigezi walk some 300 miles to take a job on a plantation and walk back the same distance some four months later, very probably a worse man morally and physically than when he left his home.

"One cannot very well stop a private employer of labour from wasting it—his banker will do that for him soon enough—but I would respectfully urge that a Committee be appointed to inquire into the labour requirements of various Government Departments and to make suggestions for the introduction of labour-saving appliances and the proper training of Natives in the use of these. I have no doubt that a great saving of labour and money would thus be effected.

"I agree with other members of my Chamber that the proposed labour recruiting organization is too elaborate and that the recruiting costs are excessive."

COTTON PRODUCTION IN TANGANYIKA.

Specially Written for "East Africa."

By An Old Tanganyika Settler.

Morogoro.

The cotton season ended last November in the Morogoro District, and on the whole the Agricultural Department must be congratulated on the results. Nearly 2,500,000 kilos, or, say, 2,500 tons of "Native" grown cotton passed through the hands of the Government in this district alone, and the grading showed roughly 42% firsts, 22% seconds, and 36% thirds. East Africa 1-29-25

There are of course many lessons to be learnt from the experience of this last season, and to those readers who plant cotton it may be of interest to peruse the following.

Anybody who travelled through the district planted with cotton would at once be struck by the large amount of cotton lying on the ground. This I attribute to the amount of cotton seed issued to individuals by the Government last season being far too much; as a consequence the Natives found they could not obtain people to harvest it. Moreover, the high price first paid for the cotton resulted in the Native obtaining sufficient money to last him several months, and he therefore considered it unnecessary to harvest the remainder, especially as the price fell to nearly one-half.

Grading.

The general policy of the Government has, I make bold to assert, been to grade far too leniently, which policy is responsible for the grading figures previously quoted. It has been pointed out that first grade Native cotton is better than plantation cotton, i.e., the production of European planters, but no mention was made that the plantation cotton was ungraded. This was really due to the merchants who purchased their "whole crop" from many planters at a given price per kilo, irrespective of quality. It is, I consider, a very bad policy for both parties. The purchaser bound himself to take all the cotton picked, and some which I have personally seen was fit only for the fire.

When the planter wants to plant next season he will suffer from this non-grading, and the question is one that needs prompt consideration. All the seed from first grade Native-grown cotton is reserved for the Government, which has published a notice that none will be given out to European planters. If they require seed, they can purchase it at the ginneries, the seed being from plantation cotton and ungraded. To the average planter the folly of putting in any but the very best seed is apparent, yet he has no other remedy than this, unless he imports from Uganda or Nyasaland.

The Government, it must be admitted, is sadly handicapped by the lack of staff with a knowledge of cotton growing—and by growing I mean real commercial experience, not the planting of a few acres, generally with enough boys to give each plant individual attention, but large-scale operations. Being short of such personnel the authorities are hardly able to advise the planters when difficulties crop up, but there again it is more the policy of the Government to give practically all their attention to Native production.

Native Thefts.

Towards the latter end of the cotton delivery season thefts were getting very numerous, and in the majority of cases the European was the sufferer. Some of the following cases brought to my notice will show that the Native is already up to many dodges.

A merchant who was taking delivery of cotton had occasion to use the Government store, where it was the custom to employ a certain number of boys to bag the cotton after it had been examined. During the night, while the work was generally in progress, some of the Natives would get hold of a full bag of cotton, slip it behind the store, and later on pass it to a friend, who next day would bring it up and sell it back to the owner. No doubt they shared the money realized.

The following would, I believe, solve the problem of these thefts. When a Government official gives out cotton seed to a Native, he might be furnished with a linen-backed ticket on which is recorded the amount of cotton seed received. On harvesting his crop, the Native would produce this ticket, the purchaser writing in the amount of cotton bought. This would make it possible to judge if the boy was bringing in cotton other than his own, allowing, of course, a fair return for the amount of seed planted. Furthermore, this system would afford invaluable data for the Agricultural Department.

Other cases of theft. I have had Natives picking cotton from European estates and leaving a bag or so in the garden to be collected at night and conveyed to the house of a friend.

An amusing incident happened one day during the luncheon interval. A Native went to obtain some water at a distance, and on his return saw another person taking up his bag of cotton and about to receive payment. On my asking the delinquent why he had taken the other man's property, he replied with a rather expressive meaning "I was absent-minded." He was sent to the local magistrate but lack of evidence.

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Difficulties.

The merchants who purchased the crop this season were not prepared to handle such a large quantity of cotton, and as a result it has been a great eye-sore to planters to see large mounds of first-class cotton exposed to the varying weather.

Labour is getting worse and worse. A certain firm, which does its transport by one-ton motor trucks, is having far from a good time. Owing to the appalling state of many of the roads, the cars are constantly breaking down, and most of the drivers are a great source of worry. Each car is supposed to do eight trips in twenty-four hours, taking twenty-five bags per trip. It is a money-making game for the Native driver, who reaps quite a rich harvest from pedestrians who want to go in the same direction. One driver—who, to his surprise, came to grief—went a bit further, making it a habit to leave two bags of cotton at a certain spot to be brought in to the market next day by a friend and sold.

For the coming season a good deal of fresh land has been opened up and cleared, but with the ever-increasing labour difficulties I fear there is trouble ahead for some of the European planters.

Vaccination Against SMALLPOX.

Health Circular No. 13 issued for public information by the South African Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 3266, Johannesburg.

It was in the year 1796 that an English doctor named Jenner discovered that an attack of the cow-pox was a safeguard against smallpox. The practice of vaccination begun by him has all over the world. But since a prophet is not without honour save in his own country, and among his own people, the discovery made by Jenner has met with a far less hearty welcome in England than in many other parts of the world. Indeed so active have been the detractors among his fellow countrymen that the Research Defence Society (11 Chandos Street Cavendish Square. London) have recently thought it worth while to issue a pamphlet written by Doctor Mary Sacharlieb which gives an admirable historical and scientific survey of vaccination and smallpox in England since the time of Jenner. Those who wish to enter into controvesies with agitators of the "anti" school will do well to procure a copy of this one-shilling booklet.

THE DANGER Of INDIFFERENCE.

The real dangers of smallpox at the present time, however, does not depend on the work of agitators so much as upon the indifference of the the general public. Vaccination supported by improved sanitation has been so successful that many people are ready to believe that it is no longer necessary. A glance round the world to-day make them change their opinion In the far west for example, we find that "the presence of 80% of unvaccinated school children in the population of California is responsible for interer esting tendency in the morbidity statistics of smallpox. What is this interesting tendency? It is a gradual return to the pre-Jennerian days when smallpox was primarily a children's disease Between the years 1728 and 1761 in the village of Kilmarnock, Scotland, 16% of all deaths were due to nine epidemics of smallpox. Of these deaths 5% were under four years of age, 10% between four and eight years, and only 1% over 8 old. It is to this state of things that the unvaccinated country are returning.

Not so those countries where vaccination is enforced. Whereas in four years the European countries protected by vaccination with a population of 89,600,000 have had a mortality per million of 24.5, the unprotected or imperfectly protected countries with a population of 175,200,000 have had a mortality of 2422 5 per million or nearly a hundred times as high.

IS VACCINATION DANGEROUS?

Many parents refrain from having their babies vaccinated because they have heard (probably from some agitator) that vaccination is dangerous. There is of course a sense in which the scratch of a thorn is dangerous and in this sense the scratch of the doctor's needle may be risky too. Dr Campbell McClure rightly says: "The possible dangers of vaccination, where good lymph is used and where proper surgical precautions are taken before and during the operation are so remote that the general public has less reason to condemn vaccination than almost any other surgical precedure." As another writer puts it, the dangers of vaccination are largely imaginary and the benefits of the procedure are striking. The menace of small pox is real and the effects of the scourge are terrible.

In 1721 Increase Mother published a treatise in justification of the pre-Jenner practice of inoculation with smallpox, that is the practice of giving a mild attack of smallpox by passing the virus from a small-pox patient to a healthy individual What-ever we may think of that ancient controversy, we must admire his polemic and may well apply his closing paragraph to the controversy of to-day.

"Hence to Rave, and Rail with such bitter Execrations, as are too commonly used, against the Ministers and other serious Christians, who favour this practice, is a very crying Iniquity; and to call it a work of the Devil, is a shocking Blasphemy; and much more likely to bring the plague among us than the practice, which they so ignorantly and maliciously do charge with such Imaginary Consequences"

.....

The foregoing article is supplied by the League of Red Cross Societies and exta copies may be obtained on application the S.A. Red Cross Society, P O. Box 3266, Johannesburg. TransAaal.

SIDELIGHTS ON LABOUR.

The 1923 report of the Principal Labour Inspector of the Kenya Colony contains a number of very interesting remarks and we full the following extracts from that document:—

"Careful records have been kept by Labour Inspectors of the different tasks set as a day's work to labourers in the various industries. It has been found that on coffee estates tasks of necessity vary greatly with the season of the year and the condition of the estate, whereas on railway construction, fuel cutting, and sisal estates a recognized standard task can be kept up practically all the year round. The average tasks in the various industries are as follows:

Average Tasks.

"(1) *Coffee picking:* Three four-gallon tins per day during heavy picking season. 15 cents per tin overtime.

"Weeding: 500-1,000 sq. yards per day.

"Pruning: 20-40 acres per day.

"(2) *Sisal cutting:* 1,250 leaves per day (Kibwezi and coast areas), 2,000 leaves per day (Thika-Kyambu area).

"Weeding: 100-200 plants, according to the condition of the estate.

"(3) *Railway construction:* 80-100 cubic feet soft earth.

"(4) *Fuel cutting:* 35-50 cubic feet, according to the nature of the timber.

"(5) *Ballast breaking:* 10-25 cubic feet, according to hardness of stone. Equals 2½-6 barrels.

"In wattle plantations 50 cubic feet can easily be cut and stacked by an able-bodied man in six hours, while in the dry bush, where special trees have to be selected and the logs carried some distance for stacking, some 35 cubic feet is as much as an able-bodied man can do.

How to Set Tasks.

"In practice Inspectors find that the employer a moderate task and sees that labourers and therefore get their tickets regularly is more successful than the man who sets task for a slightly higher wage and gets tasks done in three days.

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first fourteen days. This is particularly important with such tribes as Meru who are unused to any sort of regular work, and are, therefore, appalled at the size of the task before they have learned the work."

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Regarding the rates of wages paid for unskilled labour, the following interesting table is appended:

		Maximum rate on engagement.		Average wage.	Increase.
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Available Labour Supply.

In the concluding summary it is admitted that, although an acute shortage of labour cannot be said to exist at the moment, the time is not far distant when employers will have to look beyond the borders of the Colony to fulfil their requirements. The estimated number of adult males in the country between the ages of 15 and 40 is given at 420,000, exclusive of the purely pastoral tribes, such as Somali, Masai, and Turkana. From this total the Labour Bureau Commission Report of 1921 states that 20 per cent. should be deducted to allow for the medically unfit, thus leaving a total of 326,000.

Of this number approximately 129,000 are shown by the Registration records to have been in employment on October 31, 1923, while an additional number amounting to about 9,500 are estimated to have been in employment but not recorded as such in the Registration Office, e.g., K.A.R., Police, Prisoners, Warders, and daily labourers. On the other hand, it is estimated that about 4,000 of those recorded as in employment were on indefinite leave, thus leaving a net total in employment on October 31, 1923, of about 134,500.

As it is improbable that the average Native of the country will work for more than six months in the year for many years to come, it may be assumed that the approximate annual supply drawn from the local tribes is about 270,000 per annum. An increasing number will probably be detained in the reserves for growing cotton and for other schemes for Native development. The Native population of Uganda is already largely absorbed in this occupation, and the Natives of Nyanza Province are keenly following the example set by their progressive neighbours. The position at present is that European employers must now compete with the Native maize industry in Kikuyu and the cotton industry in the Nyanza Province. Both reserves contain large areas of undeveloped land which the Natives are being encouraged to plant with economic crops. The result of all this will probably be a shortage of labour on European farms and plantations unless employers are prepared to raise wages.

TWO KILLED BY RHINOCEROS.

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Later in the day Captain E. D. Atkins, a soldier settler in Nanyuki, and his wife were motoring to Meru, when the car stuck in a dry donga. Suddenly the same rhinoceros charged them from the bush. They were unarmed, and Captain Atkins told his wife to leave the car and run for her life. Meanwhile, he attempted to divert the charging rhinoceros with his coat, but was trampled to death. Mrs. Atkins escaped and secured help, and the animal was shot later.

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SOME ASPECTS OF LABOUR.

Specially Written for "East Africa"

By "Kalambo."

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Before actually considering the labourer at work we must take into consideration the state in which he arrives at his work. We have seen that he generally comes from a distance. If recruited by one of the large agencies he arrives in good condition, for he is looked after *en route*. If travelling independently he arrives in fair condition, as he takes his own time and stops to work on the way, generally earning food and sometimes a little money. Undoubtedly those recruited in small gangs by the private recruiter arrive in the worst condition. Sometimes it takes as much as two months for them to pick up sufficiently to do a full day's work. When this is taken out of their contract time, which is already very short, it becomes an important consideration, and is a severe handicap to the employer. It is sometimes distressing to see these men, the representatives of fine tribes, arriving at some centre after a month's journey. By the time they leave their work they are once more fit and have filled out, but again the journey takes its physical toll.

Though Native tribes are known for their open-handed hospitality, once a certain road becomes a highway of labour passing to and fro, the old spirit rapidly dies, giving place to high prices and extortion, to which the small gang starting out with a monetary allowance with which to buy food are easy victims.

Labour in Industrial Centres.

The conditions at the labour centres are so different that we must consider the industrial and the agricultural ones apart. The former we can, however, dismiss shortly.

Organization is the whole basis of their labour success or failure. They have generally their regular skilled labour, built up gradually and carefully. These men are local workers. Then they receive at stated intervals large gangs from the big agencies. The personal factor is almost eliminated. Conditions as regards housing are good. Rations are good and generous. The sanitary arrangements are good. In fact, in a word, the surroundings in which the man works are made as attractive as possible. They have to be on account of competition and the imperative necessity of efficient and continuous work from each individual labourer. The men generally get good wages, can and do save up for their return home, and are as a whole contented and happy at the particular work which has become the speciality of their tribe. The great difference to note between agricultural and industrial labour is that the latter is far more regular, i.e., the labourer works on six days out of the seven. This is a question of organization and also of habit.

The best cared-for labour I have yet seen was on the great copper mines of the Katanga in the Belgian Congo. But there are always two great harmful factors in these centres, factors which we have already noted. They are (1) that the labourer has not his family with him, and (2) the lack of provision for social life.

Comparison with Europe.

We know that industrial centres are not the ideal anywhere, but the European industrial worker is usually surrounded by his family or some portion of it, and if married has his home at his working centre.

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regards this class are: (1) The heavy recruiting cost; (2) the expense of, and the time lost on travelling; (3) the shortness of the contract time.

The first difficulty will be eliminated when large recruiting agencies are established—and the sooner the better. As regards the second, modern transport only can obviate this and for that we shall have to wait some time yet, but conditions on the roads can be and should be much improved, so that parties arrive at their place of employment in good condition. Finally, in the third case we have seen in Part II of this short series that it would be inadvisable to extend the period of absence by law. We also find, however, that a certain percentage of men do stay away for much longer periods than those laid down by law. This gives us grounds to hope and believe that gradually social conditions will be adapted so as to provide for longer absence.

Popularity with Labour.

The first essential is to procure sufficient labour to assure the success of an undertaking. This is always difficult at the outset, for the enterprise has to make a name for itself, and upon this a lot depends. Those estates and employers who have a good name amongst labour are rarely short of men, even when their neighbours may be crying out for more.

There is more required from the employer than the mere paying out of wages, and he who is able and willing to give that more is assured of his labour supply. Popularity with labour is largely a gift. It does not mean lighter tasks, shorter hours or higher wages, but rather does it originate in the social side of the labourer's life on the estate. It lies in that the employé senses that there is a human bond between himself and his employer, and that the latter has a certain consideration for him as a fellow human being. The attitude is difficult to define, but will become more apparent in the next portion of this review.

The Gold Coast Leader

CAPE COAST, FEB. 14, 1925.

ZION REUNION.

IT is with considerable satisfaction that we learn that the differences between the parent Church of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in the United States of America and the local body, the West Gold Coast Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, have been settled. As our readers are aware, on or about October 14, last, a notice of withdrawal by the local body from the parent Church was published in the press for reasons that were then alleged, among them being the absence of financial support and proper episcopal supervision.

It appears that while steps were being taken to give effect to the notice of withdrawal the parent body, through Dr Aggrey, got the local body to suspend final action until the newly appointed Bishop could arrive on the Gold Coast for a settlement of the misunderstandings, if possible. To put it shortly, since then Bishop Aleyne has arrived, and there has been an opportunity of a meeting with the local body, with Dr. Aggrey in the chair, with the happy result that all differences have been settled, and a reunion effected.

The interest which was taken in the settlement by prominent men of the community was in itself significant. There were present, besides the actual members and pastors of the Church, the Honourable Casely Hayford, Mr. Henry Van Hien, the President of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society, Mr. W. Ward Brew, Barrister-at-Law, Mr. Myles Abadoo, Barrister-at-Law, Mr. Korsah, Barrister-at-Law, Mr. W. Esuman-Gwira Sekyi, Barrister-at-Law, Mr. Sakyiama, the Secretary of the Aborigines Society, and others. We venture to suggest that this great interest was due to the national feelings which thinking men have come to associate with the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

During the settlement occasion was taken by Bishop Aleyne to state clearly the circumstances under which the parent organisation in America seceded from the original American white organisation of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He said that the secession was due to the attitude of the white Church towards the black worshippers, which went to the extent of precluding the black worshippers from receiving the communion with the white folk besides other indignities; and that it was a challenge to the whole world that the African was capable of promoting his own organisations and maintaining them. He also noted the significance of the adoption by the secessionist fathers of the specific word "African" in the description of the new organisation. This indicated the national idea which had prompted the movement and continued it.

He wished it, therefore, to be understood that the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church was the National Church of all Africans The introduction of the word "Zion," he pointed out, was merely to indicate one of the places where the organisation first made a start. The Bishop explained that these observations had been called for by a remark made by Mr. Casely Hayford in his speech that all of us were Africans. He said further that he was an African and was proud to be an African, and that he was an African before anything else, and that that had always been his attitude, as those who knew him would testify. It is evident that when the differences that had arisen were approached in this spirit, only one thing could happen, namely, a happy solution.

We hold no brief for any particular church operating in this country. But we must confess that we watch with some degree of anxiety the career of this African National Church among us; and we should like our people fully to understand this aspect of the matter. We should like to feel that, as Africans, we can support and maintain our own Church organisations, and so develop them as to be in conformity with our national genius. Bishop Aleyne told his hearers that his great grand parents had been abstracted from West Africa and taken to America, and that the burden of proof was upon Mr. Casely Hayford to show that he Bishop Aleyne was not a Fanti. This was a hit as happy as it was witty. We should like to feel that Bishop Aleyne will come in time to realise that the African abroad has much to unlearn, and that the only culture worth developing is not necessarily European or American culture. As the episcopal head of the local organisation, it becomes, in our view, his duty to study the psychology of the people and to make himself familar with the customs and institutions of the country. And, applying the teaching of the Christ to local conditions he may in time arrive at some original method of helping the people to a healthy development of a true Christian character, which has nothing to hide from the gaze of men.

For the rest, we congratulate the Rev. Osam-Pinanko upon the happy reconciliation that has taken place. He must have had many an anxious moment in trying to do his duty by his flock and in curbing the ambition of some of his clergy and Church officers. One lesson that we, as a people, have got to learn is to stand by one another in an emergency. It is an important trait of character which will always stand us in good stead in the uphill racial work before us. The Church has now got to set to work earnestly to consolidate its forces both educationally and spiritually. It cannot afford to stand still in these days when the higher training of our youth engages the attention of all thinking men; and, therefore, we should like to see started, as soon as it may be, a College in which the clergy of the Church may be trained and higher education on national lines promoted. This is the task of the moment to which we invite the attention of patriotic sons of the soil both in and outside the Zion Church.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

BY Native Affairs is meant that department of the Executive Government which deals directly with affairs and relating to the Natural Rulers of the country and their people. That portion of the Governor's message, which deals with this department, is somewhat gloomy. Early in his observations he quotes from speeches in Council of two of the Amanhin one of whom complains "that the position of the Natural Rulers of this country is becoming a shadow—in fact we do not know where we are now-a-days;" and another who states, "we have recently had a measure strengthening the power of the Oman, and I believe the next thing to do is to strengthen the power of the Chief. As regards the native administrations generally I must confess certain things have made on me an unfavourable impression. I hope I am wrong. It seems to be suggested that it is a thing which can be wiped away at any moment either by the Government or by certain sections of the people. If this is so the situation is a very serious one indeed."

Gold Coast Leader

As far as we know there is nothing wrong with native administration, and it entirely depends upon the angle from which you look at the matter. Nor can we see how native administration can be wiped off at any moment by Government, if the people keep their head and do not allow undue interference by meddlesome people. Our African constitution is based upon immemorial customs and usages which cannot be disturbed without disorganising our whole social system. No sane Government, therefore, can attempt to wipe away the administration of our Kings and Chiefs and preserve unimpaired the central authority its life.

March 7-17-1925.

By our system, which is a highly democratic one, the position of the King or Chief in a community is dependent upon the will of the people who elect him out of a given family, and who also have the power of removing him for proper cause. This is such a safe-guard that, where abnormal conditions do not prevail, you have the best guarantee for the smooth running of the administration. Among such abnormal conditions may be mentioned the case where the ruler depends not so much upon his observance of the customs and usages of his people for their goodwill and the preservation of his position among them, but relies on an outside prop, for example, the Executive Government. In such a case it is obvious that, instead of harmony, there will be constant friction until the people resort to the constitutional method of destoolment. We are of opinion that in states where there is as little interference as possible with the normal administration the depositions are not so rife. It is hardly necessary to elaborate the point. As regards the shadowy nature of the present position of some of the Natural Rulers, we believe it is true to say that it is more pronounced in the Coast towns where the ruler is directly under the influence of the political officer. This may sound paradoxical. But those who know what the position of the kingship was, for example, at Cape Coast and Accra in the old days will readily understand what we mean.

There was a time when the Administration, wishing an interview with the King of Cape Coast or of Accra, would send his A. D. C. who, with proper ceremony and show of respect, would convey the Administrator's wishes and take back the reply of the King. In those days they were Kings. They were not merely called such but recognised as such. Since then the solvent influence of Government, according to ex-Administrator Salmon, has destroyed the former prestige at least of the Kings and Chiefs of the Coast towns. It is a common practice to-day, where formally Governors arranged for interviews with our Kings and Chiefs by their A. D. C. in proper manner, for the District Commissioner to send for the King or Chief at a moment's notice by an ordinary constable without ceremony. And this would seem to be in order, judging from the heights from which the prestige has fallen. Assuming for practical purposes that an African King or Chief is an essential executive officer in the administration of the country, his true position is scarcely appreciated. Not only is he down in the scale in the particular community, but over and over again he may be submitted to such usages on the part of junior political officers as to bring him into contempt with his people. There was reported in the press not very long ago the case where an Omanhene was assaulted by a Commissioner in the Sefwiit District. It is said that the officer's increment was stopped. But it has been complained that instead of removing him from the District, he was allowed to remain with the chance of continuing his insults to the person who had been the cause of the stoppage of his increment. These things being so, is it any wonder that the position of the Natural Rulers of this country is becoming a shadow? Clearly a lot is due to the solvent influence of Government, and we shall have to set our thinking caps as to a way of reform.

Then, again, still confining ourselves to the Coast Districts, the ancient sources of income are gone, and how can you expect a King or Chief to keep up anything but a puppet show, At Accra and Cape Coast, for example, we believe that at one time the King had some sources of income. We have heard an old merchant complain of the transformation in the status of one of the Kings in the Coast towns compared with the status of his predecessors as he knew them. Why? Simply because the former rulers were entitled to dues, in some cases, from the Government. All that has been abrogated, and they are left solely with fees; and we wonder that their position is a mere shadow of what it used to be, and that even at that they are constantly threatened by subjects who may begrudge them a fair proportion of even the tribunal fees. We have been silent too long upon these matters, and now that they have come up for consideration, we trust all responsible persons will approach the subject dispassionately so as to arrive at a solution of a difficult situation which, if left to take care of itself, must end in final dissolution of so-called Native Administration.

UGANDA COTTON REPORT.

COTTON Report, No. 8, of 1924/25, issued by the Uganda Department of Agriculture, states that during 1924 the excise duty on cotton amounted to £158,614, which was paid into general revenue. The exports of cotton from Mombasa during 1924 were 51,443,617 lbs., valued at £3,486,565, or 128,604 bales of 400 lbs. each.

Transport.

During 1924, the Uganda Railway experienced great difficulty in moving the cotton crop, which was subject to delays and exposure to weather at various points on the railway system. The piers at Jinja and Port Bell have now been enlarged, but through railway communication is urgently required in order to handle satisfactorily the increased exports and imports. Owing to the large number of motor vehicles available, and to the excellent roads, the transport of cotton to the railway system is very efficient.

Everything possible is done to relieve the railway of unnecessary transport of cotton, and no unginned cotton is allowed on Lake Victoria, otherwise the cotton ports would be completely blocked within a month of the opening of the markets. Limitation of the transport of unginned cotton has been started on Lake Kioga, and it is hoped ultimately to stop all unginned cotton through Namasagali, which will relieve the traffic congestion there.

Progress in the Provinces.

The cold wet weather in January damaged the earlier sown cotton, and in many parts of the Eastern Province cotton is being uprooted and food crops planted. Heavy pickings of later sown cotton are being made, and by the end of the month 31,370 tons of seed cotton had been sold in the markets.

Some damage has been done by abnormal weather in the Lake areas of the Uganda Province, but large quantities of cotton are now being picked. The cotton markets opened on February 17.

In the Northern Province picking is progressing rapidly, and 7,000 acres are reported to have been planted in Ankole.

A NOTE FOR COTTON GROWERS.

IT is reported from Manchester that Lancashire cotton interests owning estates in Nyasaland and Rhodesia have been experimenting by alternating cotton with tobacco and maize. The length of the staple and the output of lint per acre have been very satisfactory. This method of cultivation will, it is believed, be more extensively employed in the future.

African Natives Killed As Police Fire On Rioters

BLOEMFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA, ORANGE FREE STATE.

April 2.

This resulted in a disturbance in which one native was killed. The trouble continued Monday until the police fired on the rioting populace. Quiet was restored when the police arrested about fifty ring leaders who were all natives. For a time the situation was considered serious and the citizen military forces were called out to quell the disturbances.

The trouble started Sunday when an attempt was made by a European constable and a native policeman to seize a [illegible] Kaffir

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A NOTE FOR COTTON GROWERS.

African (Natives) Killed As Police Open Fire On Rioters

BLOEMFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA, April 13.

A Fenian disturbance in which one native was killed. The trouble continued Monday until the police fired on the rioting populace. Quiet was restored when the police arrested about fifty ring leaders who were all natives. For a time the situation was considered serious and the citizen military forces were called out to quell the disturbances.

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FREE STATE. SOUTH AFRICA, April 13. Apparently [illegible] natives were killed and numerous others wounded when police fired on 4,000 rioters in the native quarter [illegible]

The trouble started Sunday when an attempt was made by a European constable and a native police man to [illegible] a native [illegible]